

# E

**E, e** /i:/ **E's, e's or Es, es** the fifth letter of the English alphabet

**E<sup>1</sup>** a note in Western music; the musical **KEY<sup>1</sup>** (4) based on this note —see also **E NUMBER**

**E<sup>2</sup>** written abbrev. for: **1** east(ern) **2** esp. **BrE** **EARTH<sup>1</sup>** (4)

**each<sup>1</sup>** /i:tʃ/ *determiner, pron* every single one of two or more things or people considered separately: *She had a cut on each foot/each of her feet.* | *They each want to do something different.* | *I cut the cake into pieces and gave one to each of the children.* | *There are four bedrooms, each with its own bathroom.* | *It costs \$60 for a week, and then \$10 for each additional day.*

▷ **USAGE** Compare **both** and **each**. **1 Both** is used for two things taken together while **each** is used for any number of things taken separately. Compare **Both my children** (=I have two children) *go to the same school* and **Each of my children** (=I have two or more children) *goes to a different school.* **2 Both** always takes a plural verb: **Both these books are mine.** **Each** is usually singular, except **a** after a plural subject: **Each has his own room.** | *They each have their own room.* | *They've each decided, haven't they?* **b** (in **BrE**) sometimes when **each of** is followed by something long and plural: **Each of the three young doctors in the hospital is/are specializing in a different subject.** —see also **ALL<sup>3</sup>**; see **EVERY (USAGE)**◀

**each<sup>2</sup>** *adv* for or to every one: *The tickets are £1 each.*

**each oth-er** /i·'oʊ/ also **one another** —*pron* (not used as the subject of a sentence) (shows that each of two or more does something to the other(s)): *Susan and Robert kissed each other.* (=Susan kissed Robert and Robert kissed Susan.) | *They held each other's hands.* | *The students in the class told each other about their own countries.*

**each way** /i·'eɪ/ *adj, adv* (of money) placed to win more money if the horse or dog on which money is risked comes first, second, or third, in a race: *an each-way bet* | *He backed Red Rum each way.*

**ea-ger** /'i:ɡə/ *adj* [(for)] marked by strong interest or impatient desire; full of **ENTHUSIASM**: *She listened to the story with eager attention.* | *He is eager for success/eager for you to meet his friends.* [**F+to-v**] *The company is eager to expand into new markets.* [**F+that**] (*fml*) *I am eager that they should win.* —*~ly adv* —*~ness n*

**eager bea-ver** /i·'beɪ/ *n infml* someone who is almost too eager or works too hard

**ea-gle<sup>1</sup>** /'i:ɡəl/ *n* **1** a very large strong bird with a hooked beak and very good eyesight which kills small birds and animals for food: *The bald eagle is the emblem of the US.* —compare **HAWK** **2** (in **GOLF**) a **SCORE** of two strokes less than **PAR** on a hole

**eagle<sup>2</sup>** *n* (in **GOLF**) (the taking of) two fewer than the suggested number of **STROKES** (hits) of the ball to reach the hole: *He scored an eagle on the 14th hole.*

**Eagle** [*the*] the title of a weekly British magazine for boys, full of picture stories of adventure, which came out during the 1950s and 60s. Its great **HERO** was Dan Dare.

**eagle-eyed** /i·'eɪ/ *adj* looking with very keen attention and noticing small details: *an eagle-eyed teacher* | *Peter watched eagle-eyed while Bill counted the money.*

**Eagle has Land-ed** /i·'eɪ/ *The* the title of a book and film about a German plan to seize Winston Churchill during the Second World War

**Eagle Scout** /i·'eɪ/ *n* a boy **SCOUT** in the US who has earned the highest rank

**ea-glet** /'i:ɡlət/ *n* a young eagle

**Ea-kins** /'i:kɪnz/, **Thomas** (1844–1916) an American



painter known for his realistic style in pictures such as *The Gross Clinic*

**Ea-ling com-e-dy** /i:liŋ 'kɒmədi/-'kɑ:z/ *n* one of many humorous black-and-white films made at **Ealing Studios** in London, esp. in the 1950s, which featured many famous British actors: *I really love all those Ealing comedies.*

**ear<sup>1</sup>** /iə/ *n* **1** [**C**] either of the two organs by which people or animals hear, one on each side of the head: *You needn't shout into my ear like that. I can hear you perfectly well.* | *an ear infection* | *Dogs have very good ears.* (=they hear very well) **2** [**S (for)**] keen recognition of sounds, esp. in music and languages: *She's got a good ear for music.* | *Peter learned to play the piano by ear.* (=without written music) **3** [**S**] sympathetic attention: *She gained the ear of the managing director and voiced her opinion.* **4** *all ears infml* listening eagerly: *Tell us what happened. We're all ears!* **5** *go in (at) one ear and out (at) the other infml* (of information, orders, etc.) to have no effect because not listened to: *I told the children to go to bed, but it went in one ear and out the other, and they're still here.* **6** *keep one's/an ear to the ground* to keep oneself informed of news, events, etc.: *I haven't heard of any new developments yet but I'll keep my ear to the ground.* **7** *out on one's ear sl* suddenly thrown out of a place or esp. dismissed from a job, because of misbehaviour: *Do that one more time, and you're out on your ear!* **8** *someone's ears are/must be burning infml* we/people have been talking (esp. unkindly) about someone **9** *up to one's ears in infml* deep in or very busy with: *I'm up to my ears in work/in debt.* —see also **get/give a thick ear** (**THICK<sup>1</sup>**), **bend someone's ear** (**BEND<sup>1</sup>**), **fall on deaf ears** (**FALL<sup>1</sup>**), **go/send someone off/away with a flea in his/her ear** (**FLEA**), **make a pig's ear of** (**PIG<sup>1</sup>**), **play it by ear** (**PLAY<sup>1</sup>**), **prick up one's ears** (**PRICK<sup>2</sup>**), **turn a deaf ear to** (**DEAF**), **wet behind the ears** (**WET**) and see picture at **HEAD**

**ear<sup>2</sup>** *n* the head of a grain-producing plant, used for food: *an ear of corn/wheat*

**ear-ache** /'iəreɪk/ *n* [**C** (esp. **AmE**); **U** (esp. **BrE**)] (a) pain in the inside part of the ear —see **ACHE (USAGE)**

**ear-drum** /'iədɾʌm/-'iər-/ *n* a tight thin skin inside the ear, which allows one to hear sound

**eared** /iəd/-'iərd/ *adj* (*usu. in comb.*) having ears that can be seen, or are of a particular kind: *the eared seal* | *a pink-eared rabbit* | *a sharp-eared little boy who hears everything we say* | *golden-eared corn*

**ear-ful** /'iəfʊl/-'iər-/ *n* [**S**] *infml* angry or complaining talk, esp. that goes on for a long time: *If he comes here again and tries to make trouble, he'll get an earful from me!* —compare **MOUTHFUL**

**Ear-hart** /'eəhɑ:t/-'eərha:rt/, **A-me-li-a** /ə'mi:liə/ (1898–1937) an American pilot, famous for being the first woman to fly across the Atlantic alone, and for mysteriously disappearing while on a flight across the Pacific

**earl** /zɜ:l/-'zɜ:rl/ *n* a British nobleman of high rank: *the Earl of Warwick* —compare **COUNT<sup>3</sup>**, **COUNTESS**

**earl-dom** /'zɜ:ldəm/-'zɜ:r-/ *n* **1** the rank of an earl **2** the lands of an earl or **COUNTESS**

**Earl Grey** /i·'eɪ/ *n* [**U**] a type of tea which has a particular taste and smell, from an oil that is used in it: *My friend always drinks Earl Grey.*

**ear-li-est** /'zɜ:liəst/-'zɜ:r-/ *n* **at the earliest** no earlier than, and probably later than: *The letter will reach him on Monday at the (very) earliest.* | *The meeting can't be held until October at the earliest.* —opposite **at the latest**

**ear-lobe** /'iələʊb/-'iər-/ *n* a **LOBE** (1) —see picture at **HEAD**

**Earl's Court** /i·'eɪ/ **1** a large building in London where shows such as the motor show and other **EXHIBITIONS** are held, which many people visit **2** the area of W London around this building. It is an area where many young people live in **BED-SITTERS**, and is known for the large number of visiting Australians who stay there. It is sometimes called **Kangaroo Valley** because of this.

**ear-ly<sup>1</sup>** /'zɜ:li/-'zɜ:rl/ *adj* **1** arriving, developing, happening, etc., before the usual, arranged, or expected time: *an early lunch* | *I was early for work today.* [after *n*] *The train was ten minutes early.* —compare **LATE<sup>1</sup>** **2** happening towards the beginning of the day, one's life, a period of time, etc.: *She returned in the early morning.* | *memories*



of his early childhood | She was born in the early 1950s. | an early motor car (=one of the first developed) | The new car seems to be going well, but it's still **early days**. (=it's too early to be certain) He must be in his **early fifties**. — compare LATE<sup>1</sup> **3** [A no comp.] fml happening soon: We await your **early reply** concerning the above request. **4** **early to bed, early to rise, makes a man healthy, wealthy, and wise** saying a phrase used, esp. by parents to their children to make them go to bed early — **liness** n [U]

**early**<sup>2</sup> adv **1** before the usual, arranged, or expected time: He always arrives **early**. **2** near the beginning of a period: The bush was planted **early** in the season. | She's already here — she arrived **earlier** this week. | The wheel was discovered **very early on** in human history. — compare LATE<sup>2</sup>

**Early Am-er-i-can** /i.. '..../ n [S] a style of furniture, cloth, or building in the US which is supposed to look like that used in the early 19th century: We're going to redo the living room in **Early American**.

**early bird** /i.. '.../ n **1** a person who gets up or arrives early. This may be thought good or bad, depending on the habits of the speaker: "Do you think it's too early to phone him?" "Not at all. He's a real **early bird**." **2** (it's) the **early bird (that) catches the worm** saying someone who does things before other people will have success

**early closing day** /i.. '.../ also **early closing, half day closing** —n the day of the week, usu. Wednesday or Thursday, when some smaller British shops close early, usu. at one o'clock. It is the same day every week in any one town: You'd better go now if you want some bread. It's **early closing** today. | "Which day is **early closing** day?" "It's Wednesday in Westerham and Thursday in Brasted."

**Early Day Motion** /i.. '.../ n BrE a suggestion formally made in writing in parliament by a member of parliament and signed by other members; members of parliament make suggestions in this way in order to find out or show how much support they get: 180 MPs have already signed the **Early Day Motion** tabled by Robert Parry.

**Early Learn-ing Cen-tre** /i.. '.../ n [C] one of a group of British shops which sell toys, games, books and other things for children. They are known for selling good quality toys, which are often educational, and they have a POLICY of not selling toy guns or toys which are just fashionable for a short time.

**early re-tire-ment** /i.. '.../ n [U] the act of stopping work before the usual age for doing so, which is usually 60 or 65. Companies sometimes ask workers to **take early retirement** as a way of reducing their number of workers, or as a way of getting rid of a difficult worker: He's hoping to get the offer of **early retirement** if the takeover goes through.

**early warn-ing sys-tem** /i.. '.../ n **1** a network of RADAR stations called **early warning stations** which give information in advance of enemy air attack **2** any system which gives early information about danger: an **early warning system** for river pollution

**ear-mark** /'iəmə:k/ 'iəmə:rk/ v [T (for)] to set aside (money, time, etc.) for a particular purpose: These funds are **earmarked** for famine relief.

**ear-muffs** /'iəməfs/ 'iə- / n [P] a pair of ear coverings connected by a band over the top of the head and worn to protect a person's ears from cold —see PAIR (USAGE)

**earn** /ɜ:n/ 'ɜ:rn/ v **1** [I;T] to get (money) by working: He earns £20,000 a year (by writing stories). | He's earning a fortune as a consultant engineer. | How does she **earn her living**? | Now that you're earning, you should think about buying a house. **2** [T] to get (something that one deserves) because of one's qualities or actions: He **earned** a lot of praise from the papers for the way he handled the strike. | She's **earned** a break after all that hard work. **3** [T+obj(i)+obj(d)] to cause (someone) to get; make worthy of; GAIN: Her success in the exam **earned** her a place at university. | His skill in negotiating **earned** him a reputation as a shrewd tactician. —see GAIN<sup>1</sup> (USAGE) — ~er n

**earned in-come cred-it** /i.. '.../ n [U] (in the US) money returned to working parents who do not earn enough to support their families. It comes from tax money that is taken out of wages.

**earn-er** /'ɜ:nə/ 'ɜ:r- / n a nice little **earner** infml something which earns a very satisfactory amount of money: The sale of novelty trays turned out to be a nice little **earner** for the company.

**ear-nest**<sup>1</sup> /'ɜ:nɪst/ 'ɜ:r- / adj determined and serious, esp. too serious: We made an **earnest** endeavour to persuade her. | an **earnest** young man who never laughs — ~ly adv — ~ness n [U]: I say this in all **earnestness**.

**earnest**<sup>2</sup> n in **earnest**: a seriously; in a determined way: It soon began to snow in **real earnest**. (=very hard) b serious; not joking: I'm sure he was in **earnest** when he said he wanted to marry her.

**earnest**<sup>3</sup> n [S] fml **1** a part payment of money, as a sign that one will pay the full amount later; DEPOSIT<sup>2</sup> (3) **2** [(of)] something which comes first to show what will come after: The current economic slump is an **earnest** of the major recession to come.

**earn-ings** /'ɜ:nɪŋz/ 'ɜ:r- / n [P] **1** money which is earned by working: What are your **take-home earnings** after tax and deductions? **2** money made by a company or government: a decline in our export **earnings**

**earnings re-lat-ed** /i.. '.../ adj (of a payment or BENEFIT) related to how much someone earns: an **earnings related pension**

**Earp** /ɜ:p/ 'ɜ:rp/, **Wy-att** /'waɪət/ (1848–1929) an American policeman of the Wild West, remembered esp. for his part in killing three men in a GUNFIGHT at the O.K. CORRAL in Tombstone, Arizona. A television programme of the 1950s and 1960s based on his life made his name familiar to many Americans.

**ear-phones** /'iəfəʊnz/ 'iə- / n [P] **1** the two pieces that fit over the ears in a HEADSET, and turn electrical signals or radio waves into sound —see PAIR (USAGE) **2** a hairstyle for women in which long hair is plaited (PLAIT) and wound in circles over the ears

**ear-piece** /'iəpi:s/ 'iə- / n **1** a piece that fits into one's ear and is connected to a radio or TAPE RECORDER that one carries about, so that one can listen without other people having to listen too **2** [usu. pl.] either of two pieces of a hat or cap, which cover the ears to keep them warm **3** [usu. pl.] either of the two pieces of a pair of glasses which hold the glasses onto the ears —see picture at GLASSES

**ear-plug** /'iəplʌg/ 'iə- / n [usu. pl.] either of two pieces of soft material which are put into the ears to keep out water or noise —see PAIR (USAGE)

**ear-ring** /'iə,rɪŋ/ n [often pl.] a piece of jewellery worn on the ear —see PAIR (USAGE)

**ear-shot** /'iəʃɒt/ 'iəʃa:t/ n **within/out of earshot** within/beyond the distance at which a sound can be heard

**ear-split-ting** /'i.. '.../ adj extremely loud: an **ear-splitting** noise/scream

**earth**<sup>1</sup> /ɜ:θ/ 'ɜ:rθ/ n **1** [(the) U] (often cap.) the world on which we live: They returned successfully from the moon to (the) **Earth**. | the planet **Earth** —see picture at SOLAR SYSTEM **2** [U] the surface of the Earth as opposed to the sky: the biggest lake on **earth** (=in the world) —see LAND (USAGE) **3** [U] soil in which plants grow: He filled the pot with **earth** and planted a rose in it. **4** [(the) C usu. sing.] BrE || **ground** AmE (an additional safety wire that makes) a connection between a piece of electrical apparatus and the ground —compare EARTH<sup>2</sup> **5** [C] esp. BrE the hole where certain wild animals live, such as foxes **6** [C] (in chemistry) an OXIDE (=chemical combination with oxygen) of certain metals: the rare **earths** **7** **come back/down to earth** to stop dreaming and return to practical matters **8** BrE **look/feel like nothing on earth** infml feeling or looking very strange, unhealthy, etc.: The morning after the party he looked/felt like **nothing on earth**. | You look like **nothing on earth** in that ridiculous hat! **9** **on earth** infml (used for giving force to a question with what, who, etc.): What on **earth** are you doing? | Who on **earth** told you that? **10** **make the earth move** infml to achieve the highest point of sexual pleasure: He promised he'd **make the earth move**. **11** **did the earth move for you?** humor a phrase used after having sex to ask one's partner whether they felt the highest point of sexual pleasure **12** BrE **run (something/someone) to earth** to find (something/someone) by searching everywhere: After searching for him everywhere, she finally ran him to **earth** in the garden shed. **13** **earth to**



(someone) *esp. AmE, humor* a way of getting someone's attention when they are not listening or aren't understanding; based on SCIENCE-FICTION stories, in which people on different PLANETS talk to each other by radio: *Earth to Joan, earth to Joan – can you hear me, Joan?* –see also DOWN-TO-EARTH, **promise someone the earth** (PROMISE<sup>2</sup>), **the salt of the earth** (SALT<sup>1</sup>)

**earth**<sup>2</sup> *BrE* || **ground** *AmE* – *v* [T] to connect (a piece of electrical equipment) to the ground with a wire – compare EARTH<sup>1</sup> (4)

**earth-bound** /'ɜːθbaʊnd||'ɜːrθ-/ *adj* 1 unable to leave the surface of the earth 2 unable to rise above ordinary practical matters

**earth-en** /'ɜːθən, -ðən||'ɜːr-/ *adj* made of earth or baked clay: *an earthen floor/pot*

**earth-en-ware** /'ɜːθənweə, -ðən-||'ɜːr-/ *n* [U] 1 (cups, dishes, pots, etc., made of) rather rough baked clay: *an earthenware flowerpot* –compare PORCELAIN 2 *AmE* for CROCKERY

**earth-ling** /'ɜːθlɪŋ||'ɜːrθ-/ *n* (in SCIENCE FICTION stories) a human being, when addressed or talked about by a creature from another world: *"Take me to your leader, earth-ling," said the green creature from the spacecraft.*

**earth-ly** /'ɜːθli||'ɜːrθli/ *adj* [A] 1 of this world as opposed to heaven; material: *all my earthly possessions* 2 [*usu. in questions or negatives*] *infml* possible: *There's no earthly reason for me to go.* 3 **not have an earthly** [*usu. in questions or negatives*] *BrE infml* not to have the slightest chance/hope/idea: *"Will John win the prize?" "No, he hasn't an earthly."*

**earth moth-er** /'ɜː, -r-/ *n* 1 also **mother earth** –the earth, when it is believed to be the mother of life, or to have its own SPIRIT, or to be a GODDESS 2 a woman who thinks it is more important to be kind and look after other people, and to feel close to nature, than it is to worry about money, success, or her appearance. The words earth mother are often used in a disapproving way by people who think that this sort of woman is rather silly. These people disagree with what they see as her SENTIMENTAL ideas about nature and caring for people, and believe that her political opinions are too LEFT WING.

**earth-quake** /'ɜːθkweɪk||'ɜːrθ-/ *n* a sudden shaking of the earth's surface, which may be violent enough to cause great damage: *The town was destroyed by the earthquake.*

► **CULTURAL NOTE** Britain generally does not suffer from serious earthquakes. The US, however, has a major FAULT in Northern California, and suffers serious earthquakes regularly both there and in Alaska. –see SAN ANDREAS FAULT ◀

**earth sci-ence** /'ɜː, -sɪ-/ *n* any of the sciences such as GEOLOGY, METEOROLOGY, or OCEANOGRAPHY, that deal with parts of the earth and natural processes which happen there

**earth-shat-ter-ing** /'ɜːθ,ʃætərɪŋ||'ɜːrθ-/ also **earth-shak-ing** /-,ʃeɪkɪŋ/ – *adj* of the greatest importance to the whole world: *The President's assassination was an event of earthshattering importance.* | *Our trip to Dundee wasn't exactly an earthshattering event!* – ~ly *adv*

**Earth shoe** /'ɜː, -ʃ-/ *n* *tdmk* a shoe which is lower at the heel than at the front of the foot; Earth shoes were popular in the US in the 1970s and were worn esp. by people concerned with the environment and healthy living

**Earth Sum-mit** /'ɜː, -sɪ-/ [*the*] a large meeting held in Rio de Janeiro in 1992, where political leaders from many countries met to discuss problems that affect the whole world, esp. problems of the ENVIRONMENT

**earth-ward** /'ɜːθwəd||'ɜːrθwəd/ *adj* towards the earth, esp. from the air or space –compare LANDWARD

**earth-wards** /'ɜːθwədʒ||'ɜːrθwədʒ/ *esp. BrE* || *usu. earth-ward* *AmE* – *adv* towards the earth, esp. from the air or space –compare LANDWARDS

**earth-work** /'ɜːθwɜːk||'ɜːrθwɜːrk/ *n* [*usu. pl.*] a man-made bank of earth used esp. formerly as a protection against enemy attack. Such a bank used now might be called a BUND.

**earth-worm** /'ɜːθwɜːm||'ɜːrθwɜːrm/ *n* a common kind of long thin worm which lives in the soil

**earth-y** /'ɜːθi||'ɜːrθi/ *adj* 1 of or like earth: *potatoes with an earthy taste* 2 concerned with things of the body

rather than with things of the mind, esp. in a way that is direct and perhaps impolite: *an earthy sense of humour*

3 *AmE, infml* practical and honest; DOWN-TO-EARTH –-iness *n*

**ear trum-pet** /'ɪ, -r-/ *n* a tube that becomes wider at one end, used in the past by people who could not hear well for making sounds louder by putting the narrow end to the ear. They are often used or shown in jokes about old people with poor hearing.

**ear-wig** /'ɪə,wɪg||'ɪər-/ *n* an insect with two curved tooth-like parts on its tail, a long thin body, and several pairs of legs

**ease**<sup>1</sup> /ɪz/ *n* [U] 1 the ability to do something without difficulty: *They are expected to win the election with ease.* | *The government is very concerned about the ease with which the terrorists got onto the plane.* 2 the state of being comfortable and without worries or problems: *Gloria is a rich woman now, and lives a life of ease.* | *He didn't feel completely at (his) ease in the strange surroundings.* (=he felt nervous and uncomfortable) | *Give her a drink to put her at her ease.* 3 **(stand) at ease** (used as a military command) (to stand) with one's feet apart and one's hands behind one's back –compare **at attention** (ATTENTION<sup>1</sup> (4)), **stand easy** (EASY<sup>2</sup>) 4 **take one's ease** *fml* to rest from work or effort –see also EASY, ILL AT EASE

**ease**<sup>2</sup> *v* 1 [I (OFF);T] to make or become less severe: *I gave him some medicine to ease the pain.* | *The pain began to ease (off).* 2 [T] to make less anxious: *I eased her mind by telling her that the children were safe.* 3 [I] to become less troublesome or difficult: *Tensions in the region have eased a little.* 4 [T+obj+adv/prep] to move slowly and carefully into a different position: *The drawer in my desk was stuck fast, but I eased it open with a knife.* | *He eased himself slowly into the hot bath.* | (fig.) *She's never been a great success in the job, and now they're trying to ease her out.* (=make her leave without actually dismissing her)

**ease off/up** *phr v* [I] *infml* to become less active: *The rain is beginning to ease off.* | *The doctor told me to ease up a bit and stop working so hard.*

**ea-sel** /'ɪzəl/ *n* a wooden frame on which one can place a picture while it is being painted. Easels were formerly used to support BLACKBOARDS and still appear in humorous drawings of classrooms.

**eas-i-ly** /'ɪzəli/ *adv* 1 without difficulty: *I can easily finish it today.* 2 without doubt: *She is easily the best student in the class.*

**east**<sup>1</sup> /iːst/ (abbrev. **E**) *n* (often *cap.*) 1 [*the*;U] the direction from which the sun rises; the direction which is on the right of a person facing north: *A strange light appeared in the east.* | *It's a few kilometres to the east of London.* | *I'm lost – which way is east?* 2 [*the*] the eastern part of a country: *The rain will spread later to the east.* 3 **east is east and west is west, and never the twain shall meet** *quote* a phrase from a poem by Rudyard Kipling. People sometimes say it when they want to say that people from Europe and people from Asia will never understand each other completely.

**east**<sup>2</sup> (abbrev. **E**) *adj* (often *cap.*) 1 in the east or facing the east: *The church's east window has beautifully coloured glass.* | *She lives in East Africa.* 2 (of a wind) coming from the east: *a cold east wind* –see NORTH<sup>2</sup> (USAGE)

**east**<sup>3</sup> (abbrev. **E**) *adv* (often *cap.*) 1 towards the east: *The room faces east, so we get the morning sun.* | *The plane flew east.* | *Cleveland is (a long way) east of Chicago.* 2 **back east** *AmE infml* to or in the EAST (3)

**East** *n* [*the*] 1 the eastern part of the world as seen from Europe, esp. Asia: *the mysteries of the East* –see also FAR EAST, MIDDLE EAST, NEAR EAST, ORIENT 2 the countries of Eastern Europe and Asia which had Communist governments: *East-West relations during the early 60s* 3 *AmE* the part of the US east of the Mississippi

**East Ang-li-a** /,ɪst 'æŋɡliə/ an area in E England formed by the counties (COUNTY) of Norfolk and Suffolk, and sometimes parts of other counties next to them

**East Bank** /,ɪ- 'b-/ [*the*] the east bank of the River Jordan –compare WEST BANK

**east-bound** /'iːstbaʊnd/ *adj* travelling or leading towards



the east: *an eastbound train* | *the eastbound side of the motorway*

**East Coast** /,i·'·-/ *n* the eastern coastal states of the US, sometimes used only for those north of, and including, Washington, D.C.

► **CULTURAL NOTE** The East Coast is thought of in connection with its cities, such as New York City, Boston, Philadelphia, and Washington. Americans from the WEST COAST often think of Easterners as having old-fashioned lifestyles and ideas. East Coast Americans may be more conscious of TRADITION (= old ways) because it was this area that was first settled by the Europeans. —compare WEST COAST ◀

**East End** /,i·'·-/ also **East End of Lon-don** /,i·'·'·-/ [*the*] the eastern part of central London north of the River Thames, containing much of the DOCKLANDS: *a white boxer from the East End of London* —**East Ender** *n*

► **CULTURAL NOTE** It is thought of by many people as a poor, rough area, but one of great character and friendliness among the working class people who live there. It is now changing because of the introduction of new industries and very expensive housing bought by the rich. —see also COCKNEY ◀

**East-End-ers** /i:st'endəz||-ərz/ a popular British television SOAP OPERA set in the East End of London in the imaginary **Albert Square**: *A couple of EastEnders stars are going to visit the children in hospital.*

**Eas-ter** /'i:stə/ *n* [C;U] 1 also **Easter Sun-day** /,i·'·-/ — a Christian holy day in March or April when Christians remember the death of Christ and his return to life 2 the period just before and just after this, including GOOD FRIDAY and **Easter Monday**, when many people do not go to work: *the Easter holidays*

► **CULTURAL NOTE** On GOOD FRIDAY Christians remember the death of Christ on the cross, and on **Easter Sunday** they celebrate Christ's rising from death and victory over death. Many Christians go to church on Easter Sunday even if they do not go at other times of the year.

**Easter Monday** is a holiday in Britain. On Easter Sunday in Britain people give presents of Easter eggs, esp. to children. For American customs, see EASTER BASKET, EASTER BUNNY. Easter is connected in people's minds with Spring, the coming to life of the earth after the winter, and such things as flowers, esp. DAFFODILS, and young animals, esp. lambs and CHICKS. In the past, people used to have new clothes at Easter and women had very decorated new hats called **Easter bonnets**. ◀

**Easter bas-ket** /'i·'·-/ *n* in the US, a basket of sweets, usually JELLY BEANS, small chocolate eggs, and a chocolate Easter Bunny, left out on Easter morning to be discovered by children, who believe it is a gift from the Easter Bunny

**Easter bon-net** /,i·'·-/ *n* old-fash or humor a BONNET (= a type of women's hat) formerly bought to wear to church at EASTER: *I see you've got your Easter bonnet on then.*

**Easter bun-ny** /,i·'·-/ *n* in the US, the imaginary bunny (=rabbit) who is believed by children to deliver their Easter baskets and hide their Easter eggs on Easter morning —see colour picture on page 1211

**Easter egg** /'i·'·-/ *n* 1 BrE a usu. chocolate egg to be eaten at Easter, they are often given as presents, esp. to children 2 AmE an egg which has been coloured and perhaps decorated, usually by a child. In the US, these eggs are then hidden by the child's parents, and on Easter morning the child hunts for them, believing them to have been hidden by the Easter Bunny. —see colour picture on page 1211

**Easter Is-land** /'i·'·-/ an island in the South Pacific Ocean, W of Chile. It is famous for the very large heads cut out of stone many centuries ago.

**eas-ter-ly** /'i:stəli||-ərli/ *adj* 1 towards or in the east: *We set off in an easterly direction.* 2 (of a wind) coming from the east: *a light easterly breeze*

**easterly** <sup>2</sup> *n* a wind coming from the east; used mainly in television and radio programmes, newspaper articles, etc. about the weather

**Easter Mon-day** /,i·'·-/ see EASTER (CULTURAL NOTE)

**east-ern** /'i:stən||-ərn/ (abbrev. **E**) *adj* (often *cap.*) 1 of or belonging to the east part of the world or of a country: *Eastern regions will have heavy rain today.* | *an interest in Eastern religions* (=from India, China, etc.) —see

NORTH (USAGE) 2 full of Eastern promise a phrase used in advertisements for Fry's Turkish Delight chocolate and now sometimes used in a joking way to describe something desirable and unusual from eastern countries

**Eastern bloc** /'i·'·-/ [*the*] the USSR and the group of countries which used to be under its influence or control

**Eastern Day-light Time** /,i·'·'·-/ *abbrev.* EDT the time used in the summer months in the Eastern Time Zone of the US

**East-ern-er** /'i:stənə/||-ərnə/ *n* AmE someone who lives in or comes from the eastern US

**Eastern Eu-rope** /,i·'·'·-/ a political area of Europe consisting of Albania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Yugoslavia, all formerly Communist countries under the influence or control of the former USSR. The area included East Germany. —**Eastern European** /,i·'·'·'·-/ *n, adj*

**east-ern-most** /'i:stənməust||-ərn-/ *adj* [*no comp.*] furthest east: *the easternmost part of the island*

**Eastern Or-tho-dox Church** /,i·'·'·'·'·-/ [*the*] see ORTHODOX CHURCH

**Eastern Stan-dard Time** /,i·'·'·'·-/ *abbrev.* EST the time used from autumn to spring in the Eastern Time Zone of the US

**Easter Ris-ing** /,i·'·'·-/ [*the*] an armed opposition to British rule in Ireland in 1916. Before the Irish stopped fighting they told the British they had established an independent Irish republic. The British later executed (EXECUTE) the leaders and refused to accept the republic.

**Easter Sun-day** /,i·'·'·-/ see EASTER

**East Eu-ro-pe-an** /,i·'·'·'·'·-/ *n* [C] a person from one of the countries of Eastern Europe —**East European** *adj*

**East In-di-a Com-pany** /,i·'·'·'·'·-/ [*the*] any of several European companies that opened trade with India and the Far East in the 1600s. The **British East India Company** lasted the longest (to 1858) and had the most influence, eventually bringing India into the British Empire.

**East Lo-thi-an** /,i·'·'·'·-/ a former COUNTY in central Scotland, now part of Lothian REGION

**East Ger-ma-ny** /,i·'·'·'·-/ also **German Democratic Republic** a former republic in N central Europe which reunited with the former West Germany in 1990 **East German** — *n, adj*

**East-man** /'i:stmən/, **George** (1854–1932) an American inventor and businessman who established the **Kodak** photographic company, selling cameras that could easily be carried and film (instead of the glass plates previously used)

**East Riv-er** /'i·'·'·-/ [*the*] a river flowing into New York Harbor, separating Manhattan from Long Island —see colour map on page 1376

**East Side** /,i·'·'·-/ see LOWER EAST SIDE

**East Sus-sex** /,i·'·'·-/ a coastal COUNTY in the south of England

**east-ward** /'i:stwəd||-wərd/ *adj* going towards the east: *in an eastward direction*

**east-wards** /'i:stwədz||-wərdz/ also **eastward** — *adv* towards the east: *We sailed eastwards.* —see also EAST<sup>3</sup>

**East-West re-la-tions** /,i·'·'·'·'·-/ *n* [P] the political relations between the former Soviet Union and other former EASTERN BLOC countries such as East Germany, Hungary, Romania, etc. (East), and the US, Britain, France, the former West Germany, etc. (West): *an improvement in East-West relations* | *a conference to discuss East-West relations*

**East-wood** /'i:stwud/, **Clint** /klɪnt/ (1930– ) an American film actor and director best known for playing parts as a gunfighter in WESTERNS and a modern city police officer. His characters almost always have right on their side, and no fear. —see colour picture on page 685

**eas-y** /'i:zi/ *adj* 1 that can be done, made, gained, etc., without great difficulty or effort; not difficult: *a very easy exam* | *The exam was easy.* | *an easy victory* | *There are no easy answers to this question.* | [+to-v] *John is easy to please* | *an easy person to please.* (=it is not difficult to please him) | *It's quite an easy language to learn.* | *It's*



*easy for us to get to London because we live very near the station.* **2** comfortable and without worry or anxiety: *He has stopped working now, and leads a very easy life.* | *I can't go to bed with an easy mind until I know she's safe.* **3 (as)** *easy as pie* *infml* very easy **4 by/in** *easy stages* (on a journey) going only short distances at a time **5 easy on the ear/eye *infml* nice to listen to/look at **6 I'm easy *infml* *BrE* I don't mind at all: "Would you like to go to the theatre or the cinema?" "I'm easy." **7 AmE, infml, derog** *PROMISCUOUS*: *She's easy.* —see also *EASE*, *EASILY* —*iness* *n* [U]****

**easy<sup>2</sup>** *adv* **1** without too much effort, hurry, or anxiety: *The doctor told me to go easy/take things easy and stop working so hard.* | *Just take it easy* (=remain calm) *and tell us exactly what happened.* **2 easy come, easy go *infml* what was easily gained is easily lost (used to find fault with people who spend their money freely and carelessly and do not save it) **b** (often said to show that one is not worried about losing something or freely spending money; often said humorously) **3 easier said than done** easy to talk about but difficult to do: *We've been told to increase our output, but it's easier said than done.* **4 go easy on:** **a** to be less severe with (someone): *Go easy on her, she's still only young.* **b** not to use too much of (something): *Go easy on the whisky if you're going to be driving!* **5 stand easy** (used as a military command) to stand more comfortably than when at *ease* (*EASE*<sup>1</sup>)**

**easy chair** /i.. 'i:/ *n* a big comfortable chair with arms

**easy-going** /i:zi'gəʊɪŋ/ *adj* taking life easily; tending not to worry or get angry: *Our teacher is very easygoing.* *She doesn't mind if we turn up late.*

**easy lis-ten-ing** /i.. 'i:z/ || also *muzak* *tdmk*, *elevator music* *AmE—n, adj* [U] (of) a relaxing type of music popular esp. with *MIDDLE-AGED* people

**easy-pea-sy** /i:zi 'pi:zi/ *adj* a children's word for *easy* or *very easy*, sometimes used by a child to say forcefully that they can do something which it has been suggested they cannot: "You can't get over the wall." "Yes, of course I can. *Easy-peasy.*"

**Easy Rid-er** /i.. 'i:/ an American film made in 1969 about two young men who are interested in *ROCK* music, drugs, etc. travelling across the US on *MOTORBIKES*

**easy street** /i.. 'i:/ *n* *on easy street* *infml* in a comfortable condition of life, with no worries about money: *Since they inherited his aunt's fortune, they've been on easy street.*

**easy terms** /i.. 'i:/ *n* [P] *BrE* an arrangement by which one pays for something in a number of small payments instead of all at once: *We bought the dishwasher on easy terms.* —see also *HIRE PURCHASE*

**easy vir-tue** /i.. 'i:/ *n* [U] *old use* *woman of easy virtue* *derog* a woman who will sleep with different men

**eat** /i:t/ *v* *ate* /et, eɪt/ *eat* /i:t/ **1** [I;T] to take (food) in through the mouth and swallow it in order to feed the body: *You'll get ill if you don't eat.* | *Eat your dinner!* | *Tigers eat meat.* **2** [I] to have a meal: *What time do you usually eat?* | *Shall we eat out tonight?* (=in a restaurant rather than at home) **3** [I+prep; T+obj+adv] to use up, damage, or destroy (something), esp. by chemical action: *The acid ate away the metal.* | *The acid has eaten into/through the metal.* | (fig.) *All these bills are eating into* (=gradually using up) *our savings.* **4** [T] *infml* to cause to be annoyed or anxious: *He's been in a bad temper all day. I wonder what's eating him.* **5 eat crow** *AmE infml* to be forced to admit that one was wrong; accept what one has fought against **6 eat, drink, and be merry (for tomorrow we die) saying enjoy life, because it is very short. People who say this are often criticizing people who worry about eating the right things, but do not know how to have a good time. **7 eat like a bird** *AmE* to eat very little: *No wonder she's so thin. She eats like a bird.* **8 eat one's heart out (for)** to be very unhappy (about) or have great desire (for someone or something) without talking about it: *She's eating her heart out for that boy.* **9 eat one's words** to admit to having said something wrong **10 eat out of someone's hand *infml* to be very willing to obey or agree with someone: *They were angry at first, but she soon had them eating out of her hand.* **11 eat someone out of house and home *infml* to eat a lot of someone else's supply of food **12 eat your heart out *infml* (used in a humorous way to mean) you should be upset or jealous about this: *He's the new teenage idol — eat your heart out, Michael Jackson!* **13**********

**you are what you eat** saying your character and your physical health are decided by the kind of food you eat —see also *eat one's dinners* (*DINNER*) —see also *I'll eat my hat* (*HAT*)

**eat** (sthg. ↔) *up phr v* [I;T] **1** to eat all of (something): *Come on, eat up. There's plenty left!* | *Be a good girl and eat up your vegetables.* | (fig.) *A big car eats up money.* **2 be eaten up with** to be completely and violently full of (a feeling): *He's eaten up with jealousy.*

**eat-a-ble** /'i:təbəl/ *adj* (of food) in a fit condition to be eaten —compare *EDIBLE*

**eat-er** /'i:tə/ *n* someone who eats in the stated way: *He's a big eater.* (=he eats a lot) | *The children are rather fussy eaters.*

**eat-er-y** /'i:təri/ *n* [C] *esp. AmE* a restaurant or other place to eat: *one of the best Knoxville eateries*

**eating ap-ple** /'i:.. 'i:/ *n* an apple that one eats raw —compare *COOKING APPLE*

**eating dis-or-der** /'i:.. 'i:/ *n* a medical condition in which patterns of eating are not those of most people, e.g. *BULIMIA* or *ANOREXIA*: *Eating disorders are usually associated with teenage girls.*

**eats** /i:ts/ *n* [P] *infml* food, esp. when provided for other people: *You organize the drinks for the party, and I'll do the eats.*

**eau de co-logne** /,əʊ də kə'ləʊn/ *n* [U] *COLOGNE*

**eaves** /i:vz/ *n* [P] the edges of a roof which come out beyond the walls: *Birds have nested under our eaves.*

**eaves-drop** /'i:vzdrɒp/ *v* **-pp-** [I (on)] to listen secretly, to other people's conversation. In this way one often hears things which are private or secret and it is thought to be a dishonest thing to do. —compare *OVER-HEAR* — *per n*

**ebb<sup>1</sup>** /eb/ *n* **1** [*the* (of)] the flowing of the sea away from the shore; the going out of the *TIDE*: *The tide is on the ebb.* —compare *FLOW<sup>2</sup>* **(2)** **2 at a low ebb** in a bad or inactive state: *Relations between the two countries are at a low ebb.*

**ebb<sup>2</sup>** *v* [I] **1** (of the *TIDE*) to flow away from the shore **2** [(AWAY)] to grow less; become gradually lower or weaker: *His courage slowly ebbed away as he realized how hopeless the situation was.*

**ebb tide** /i.. 'i:/ *n* the flow of the sea away from the shore; falling *TIDE*: *The ship sailed out of harbour on the ebb tide and came back on the flood tide.* —opposite *flood tide*

**EBCDIC** /'ebsɪdɪk/ *n* [U] extended binary-coded decimal-interchange code; a set of 256 characters each using 8 bits, used for exchange of information between esp. *IBM* computers: *All electronic submissions must be in EBCDIC.* —compare *ASCII*

**eb-o-ny** /'ebəni/ *adj, n* [U] (having the colour of) a hard heavy black wood

**Ebony** an American magazine esp. for and about African Americans

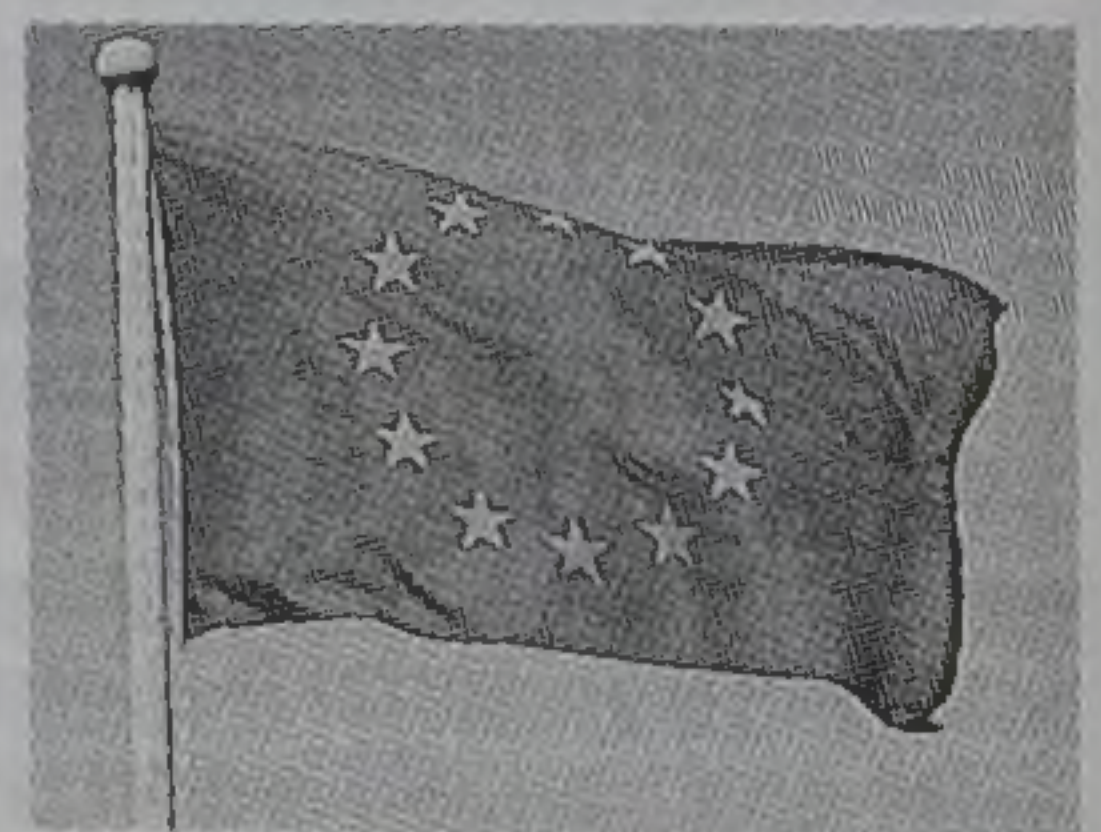
**e-bul-li-ent** /'ɪbʊliənt, 'ɪbʊ-/ *adj fml* full of life, happiness, and eager excitement: *She was in an ebullient mood, telling jokes and buying drinks for everyone.* —*ly adv* —*ence n* [U]

**EBV** /i: bi: 'vi:z/ *n* *abbrev. for* *EPSTEIN-BARR VIRUS*

**ec** *abbrev. for:* *EUROCHEQUE*

**EC** /i: 'si:/ [*the*] **1** the European Community; a West European political and economic organization established under the Treaty of Rome to encourage trade and friendly relations between its member countries, and to compete with other major economic powers; until recently known as the *EEC*

the EC flag



► **CULTURAL NOTE** Many people in Britain are not keen on the EC. They feel that Britain will lose its character and lose control over its own affairs by being a member. They esp. dislike the way in which EC law controls the small details of life in Britain. Britain frequently complains about the EC's programme and spending. —compare *COUNCIL OF EUROPE* and see also *BRUSSELS* ◀

**2 EUROPEAN COMMISSION**



**ec-cen-tric** <sup>1</sup> /ɪk'sentrɪk/ *adj* 1 behaving differently from what is usual or socially accepted, esp. in a way that is strange or amusing: *If you go to the palace in tennis shoes, they'll think you're rather eccentric.* | *eccentric behaviour* 2 [no comp.] *tech* (of two or more circles) not drawn round the same centre —compare CONCENTRIC 3 [no comp.] *tech* not (moving) in a regular circle: *Mars, Venus, and the other planets move in eccentric orbits.* — ~ally /kli/ *adv*

**eccentric** <sup>2</sup> *n* an eccentric person: *The old lady is a bit of an eccentric.*

**ec-cen-tri-ci-ty** /ɪksen'trɪsɪti, -sən-/ *n* [C;U] (an example of) eccentric behaviour: *The English are famous for their eccentricities/eccentricity.*

**Ec-cles cake** /'ekəlz keɪk/ *n* BrE a type of small cake made of pastry filled with dried fruit

**ec-cle-si-as-tic** /ɪ,klɪzi'æstɪk-/ *n* fml a priest, usu. in the Christian church

**ec-cle-si-as-ti-cal** /ɪ,klɪzi'æstɪkəl/ also **ecclesiastic** — *adj* connected with the Christian church, esp. with its formal and established organization: *ecclesiastical history/music* — ~ly /kli/ *adv*

**ECG** /ɪ: sɪ: 'dʒi:z/ BrE || **EKG** AmE— *n* 1 electrocardiograph; an apparatus that records in the form of a drawing the electrical changes that take place in the heart as it beats 2 electrocardiogram; the drawing made by an electrocardiograph: *The doctor ordered an ECG.* — compare EEG

**ech-e-lon** /'efələn||-lɑ:n/ also **echelons** *pl.*— *n* 1 a level within an organization: *She works in the higher echelons of the Civil Service.* 2 *tech* an arrangement of ships, soldiers, planes, etc., like steps rather than in a single line: *The ships sailed past in echelon.*

**ech-o** <sup>1</sup> /'ekəʊ/ *n* -oes 1 a sound sent back or repeated from a surface, e.g. from a wall or the inside of a CAVE: *She shouted "hello" and listened for the echo.* | (fig.) *In his earlier works you can hear an echo of Eliot's poetry.* (=something that seems similar to it or copied from it) 2 *to the echo* BrE old use very loudly: *She was cheered to the echo.*

**echo** <sup>2</sup> *v* -oes, -oed, -oing 1 [I] to come back as an echo: *Their voices echoed in the big empty hall.* 2 [I (with, to)] (of a place) to be filled with echoes: *The room echoed with/to the sound of their happy laughter.* 3 [T] to copy or repeat, esp. in agreement: *I should like to echo the words of the previous speaker.*

**é-clair** /ɪ'kleəʃ, eɪ-/ *n* a small finger-shaped cake made of a special kind of pastry, with cream inside and usu. chocolate on top. Eclairs are generally thought of as being very tasty to eat but rather bad for you. They have been used in advertisements with the words "Naughty but Nice".

**e-clec-tic** /ɪ'klektɪk/ *adj* fml (of people, methods, ideas, etc.) not following any one particular system or set of ideas, but using parts of many different ones: *The painter's style is very eclectic.* — ~ally /kli/ *adv* — ~ism /tɪsɪzəm/ *n* [U]

**e-clipse** <sup>1</sup> /ɪ'klɪps/ *n* 1 [C (of)] the disappearance, complete or in part, of the sun's light when the moon passes between it and the Earth, or of the moon's light when the Earth passes between it and the sun: *There was a total/partial eclipse (of the sun).* | *a lunar eclipse* (=of the moon) 2 [C;U (of)] the loss of fame, power, success, etc.; DECLINE: *During the seventies, her acting career was in eclipse.*

**eclipse** <sup>2</sup> *v* [T often pass.] 1 (of the moon or Earth) to cause an eclipse of (the sun or moon): *The moon is partially eclipsed.* 2 to do or be much better than; cause to seem less important, clever, famous, etc., by comparison: *She is completely eclipsed by her sister, who is cleverer, prettier, and more amusing.*

**e-clip-tic** /ɪ'klɪptɪk/ *n* [the+S] *tech* the path along which the sun seems to move

**ECO** /ɪ: sɪ: 'əʊ/ [the] *abbrev.* for ENGLISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

**e-co-friend-ly** /ɪ:kəʊ ,frendli/ *adj* not harmful to the ENVIRONMENT: *the growing market for eco-friendly products such as biodegradable detergents and fridges which do not use CFCs* —compare GREEN<sup>1</sup> (1)

**e-co-lo-gi-cal** /ɪ:kə'lɒdʒɪkəl||-'lɑ:z/ *adj* 1 of or concerning ecology or the ecology: *The destruction of these big forests could have serious ecological consequences.* 2 also

**ecologically sound** /... '... '.../ — not harming the ecology; GREEN; ECO-FRIENDLY: *an ecological washing powder* —gically /kli/ *adv* : *Ecologically* (=from an ecological point of view), *the new dam has been a disaster.* | *an ecologically sound forestry management policy*

**e-col-o-gy** /ɪ'kɒlədʒi||ɪ'kɑ:z/ *n* [U] (the scientific study of) the pattern of relations of plants, animals, and people to each other and to their surroundings —gist *n*

**ec-o-nom-ic** /ɪkə'nɒmɪk-, ɪz-||-'nɑ:z/ *adj* 1 [A no comp.] connected with trade, industry, and the management of money; of economics: *The country is in a bad economic state.* | *the government's economic policies* 2 profitable: *The airline says this route is no longer economic, so they're going to discontinue it.* | *to sell goods at an economic price* —opposite uneconomic

**ec-o-nom-i-cal** /ɪkə'nɒmɪkəl, ɪz-||-'nɑ:z/ *adj* 1 using money, time, goods, etc., carefully and without waste: *It's not a very economical method of heating.* | *an economical little car that doesn't use much fuel* | *If you've got a large family, it's more economical to travel by car than by train.* | fig. 2 **be economical with the truth** humor to lie indirectly or not to tell the whole truth: *I think most politicians learn to be economical with the truth.* | *Officially, the hospital is not going to close. But the NHS managers are being economical with the truth, for no more patients are being admitted.*

**ec-o-nom-i-cally** /ɪkə'nɒmɪkli, ɪz-||-'nɑ:z/ *adv* 1 not wastefully: *Mary dresses very economically because she makes all her clothes herself.* 2 in a way connected with economics: *Economically (speaking), the country is in a very healthy state.* | *Is the company economically viable?*

**Economic and Mon-e-tary U-nion** /ɪ... '... '.../ *n* see EMU

**economic cli-mate** /ɪ... '.../ *n* the national or international economic situation: *We cannot afford to employ more staff in the current economic climate.*

**economic growth** /ɪ... '.../ *n* [U] the growth and development of a country's ECONOMY as shown in increased production and INVESTMENT, a higher standard of living, etc.

**economic mi-grant** /ɪ... '.../ *n* a person who leaves the town or country in which they lived, in order to find somewhere to earn a living: *Hundreds of economic migrants are arriving in the city every day.*

**economic mir-a-cle** /ɪ... '.../ *n* unexpected RECOVERY from a bad economic situation: *Can the Chancellor bring about an economic miracle?* | *the German post-war economic miracle*

**economic ref-u-gee** /ɪ... '.../ *n* a person who goes to live in another country wealthier than his or her own not for political reasons, but in the hope of achieving a better standard of living. Most governments do not accept this type of refugee.

**ec-o-nom-ics** /ɪkə'nɒmɪks, ɪz-||-'nɑ:z/ *n* 1 [U] the scientific study of the way in which wealth is produced and used: *She's studying economics at college.* 2 [P] the way in which something, such as a plan or course of action, is influenced by economic considerations: *The economics of the scheme need to be looked at very carefully.* —see also MACROECONOMICS, MICROECONOMICS, HOME ECONOMICS

**e-con-o-mist** /ɪ'kɒnəmɪst||ɪ'kɑ:z/ *n* a person who studies and is skilled in economics

**Economist** [the] *tdmk* a British weekly magazine which discusses current world affairs from a financial angle, read esp. by business people

**e-con-o-mize** also **-mise** BrE /ɪ'kɒnəmaɪz||ɪ'kɑ:z/ *v* [I (on)] to avoid waste: *We have to economize on water during the dry season.*

**e-con-o-my** <sup>1</sup> /ɪ'kɒnəmi||ɪ'kɑ:z/ *n* 1 [C] the system by which a country's wealth is produced and used: *The new oil that we have found will improve the economy/our economy.* | *Most of the countries in the region have unstable economies.* | *a capitalist economy* —see also BLACK ECONOMY, MIXED ECONOMY, MARKET ECONOMY, COMMAND ECONOMY 2 [C;U] (an example of) the careful use of money, time, effort, etc., in order to avoid waste: *to practise economy* | *We're trying to make a few economies.* | *economy of effort* | *We had an economy drive* (=we all tried to spend less) *in order to save money for our holiday.* | *They are able to keep their costs low because of economies of scale.* (=the



advantages of producing something in very large quantities) | *buying cheap tyres is a false economy – they may cost a bit less, but they will wear out much more quickly.* –see also **ECONOMICAL**

**economy**<sup>2</sup> *adj* [A no comp.] cheap; less expensive: *Buy the large economy packet and you'll save money.*

**economy class** /ˌiːkəˈnɒmi ˈklɑːs/ *n* [U] (on an aircraft) the cheapest travelling conditions: *The seats are very close together in economy class.* –compare **FIRST CLASS** **economy class** *adv*: *We're going to travel economy class.*

**economy of scale** /ˌiːkəˈnɒmi ˈskɑːl/ *n* a reduction in costs because of an increase in the scale of production: *Large companies often benefit from economies of scale.*

**e-co-sys-tem** /ˌiːkəʊˈsɪstəm/ *n* all the plants, animals, and people in an area together with their surroundings, considered from the point of view of their relationship to each other

**e-co-ter-ror-is-m** /ˌiːkəʊˈterərɪzəm/ *n* [U] the deliberate destruction of the environment, often for political reasons

**ec-sta-sy** /ˈekstəsi/ *n* **1** [C;U] (a state of) very strong feeling, esp. of joy and happiness: *A look of ecstasy spread over his face as he swallowed the delicious oysters.* | *She was in a trancelike state of religious ecstasy.* | *The children were in ecstasies/went into ecstasies when he told them about the holiday.* **2** [U] an **ILLEGAL** drug used esp. by young people to give a feeling of **HAPPINESS** and **ENERGY**, particularly at **NIGHTCLUBS** and parties –see **ACID HOUSE PARTY**

**ec-stat-ic** /ɪkˈstætɪk, ek-/ *adj* experiencing or causing great joy: *She was absolutely ecstatic when I told her the news.* – ~ **ally** /kli/ *adv*

**ECT** /iː siː ˈtiː/ *n* [U] electro-convulsive therapy; **ELECTRIC SHOCK THERAPY**

**ec-top-ic preg-nan-cy** /ekˈtɒpɪk ˈpregnənsi-/ *n* **med** **TUBAL PREGNANCY**

**ECU** /ˈekjuː/ *n* **European Currency Unit**; the official unit of money of the **EC**

**Ec-ua-dor** /ˈekwədɔː/ *n* a country in South America; capital Quito; population 10,490,000 (1989) – ~ **ian** /ˈekwəˈdɔːriən/

**e-cu-men-i-cal** /ˌiːkjəˈmenɪkəl/ *adj* supporting or tending towards agreement in aims and beliefs between the different branches of the Christian religion, with a hope of uniting them in one church – ~ **ly** /kli/ *adv*

**ec-ze-ma** /ˈeksɪmə/ *n* [U] a red swollen condition of the skin; usu. in one or two areas of the body at a time, with dryness and itching (**ITCH**), and often with an unknown cause

**ed.** /ed/ *abbrev. for:* **1** edited **2** (pl **eds**) edition **3** (pl **eds**) editor **4** education

**E-dam** /ˈɪdæm/ *n* [U] a yellow cheese from the Netherlands made in balls covered with red **WAX**

**ed-dy**<sup>1</sup> /ˈedi/ *n* a circular movement of water, wind, dust, smoke, etc.: *The little paper boat was caught in an eddy and spun round and round in the water.*

**eddy**<sup>2</sup> *v* [I] (of water, wind, dust, smoke, etc.) to move round and round or in a varying direction: *The mist eddied round the old house.*

**Eddy, Mary Baker** (1821–1910) an American religious leader, who started the Christian Science movement in 1866

**E-den** /ˈɪdn/ also **Garden of Eden**—the garden where according to the Bible, Adam and Eve, the first human beings, lived before their disobedience to God. It is thought of as a place or state of complete happiness –see also **FALL** and see colour picture on page 424

**Eden, Sir Anthony** (1895–1977) an English Conservative politician and **PRIME MINISTER** (1955–57)

**edge**<sup>1</sup> /edʒ/ *n* **1** the part or place where something ends or begins or that is farthest from its centre: *Don't go too near the edge of the cliff.* | *She stood by the water's edge.* | *If you don't want it, leave it on the edge of your plate.* | *Can you stand a coin up on its edge?* | (fig.) *He felt he was on the edge of madness.* **2** the thin sharp cutting part of a blade, tool, etc.: *This knife has a very sharp edge.* **3** **have the edge on/over** to be (slightly) better than or have a (slight) advantage over: *She has the edge on the other students because she spent a year in England.* **4** **on edge** nervous; **EDGY**: *I'm sorry if I was rude to you – I'm a bit*

*on edge at the moment.* **5** **on the edge** esp. **AmE**, *infml* on the edge of madness; about to go mad: *Poor Aunt Ethel – I think she's on the edge.* | *What's wrong with me today? I must be on the edge!* **6** **take the edge off** to lessen the force of: *That'll take the edge off your hunger.* **7** **-edged** /edʒd/ having an edge or edges of the stated type or number: *a sharp-edged blade* | *a two-edged sword* –see also **CUTTING EDGE**, **DOUBLE-EDGED** and see picture at **SERRATED**

**edge**<sup>2</sup> *v* **1** [T (with)] to provide with an edge or border: *She had a white handkerchief edged with blue.* **2** [I+adv/prep; T+obj+adv/prep] to (cause to) move gradually, esp. with small sideways movements: *He edged (his way) towards the front of the crowd.* | *She edged her chair closer to mine.* | (fig.) *He's been running the company for years, but they're trying to edge him out now.* | (fig.) *Prices have been stable for a while, but they are beginning to edge up again now.* **3** to cut the edges of (an area of grass) with a tool that cuts into the ground, in order to make a straight line and a neat appearance: *Will you edge the lawn after I've mown it?*

**edge-ways** /ˈedʒweɪz/ also **edge-wise** /-waɪz/ *adv* sideways: *The door's so narrow you could only get this painting through edgewise.* –see also **get a word in edgewise** (**WORD**<sup>1</sup>)

**edg-ing** /ˈedʒɪŋ/ *n* [C;U] something that forms an edge or border: *a white handkerchief with (a) blue edging*

**edging tool** /ˈiː ˌtɔːl/ *n* a garden tool used for making the edges of a grass area neat by cutting into the ground

**edg-y** /ˈedʒi/ *adj* *infml* nervous and easily made angry: *She's been a bit edgy lately, waiting for the exam results.* – **ily** *adv*

**ed-i-ble** /ˈedɪbəl/ *adj* fit to be eaten; suitable to be used as food: *These berries are edible but those are poisonous.* | *edible fungi* –opposite **inedible** –compare **EATABLE**

**e-dict** /ˈɪdɪkt/ *n* **1** an official public order made by someone in a position of power. An edict is almost always made by one person acting without taking the advice of others: *The king issued an edict forbidding the wearing of swords within the city.* **2** esp. *humor* any order or command

**ed-i-fi-ca-tion** /ˌedɪfɪˈkeɪʃən/ *n* [U] *fml* or *humor* the improvement of the mind or character; often used in connection with something whose educational value is low in the opinion of the speaker: *Now here, for your edification, is Professor Spinks to talk about Mexican pottery.*

**ed-i-fice** /ˈedɪfɪs/ *n* *fml* or *pomp* a large fine building, such as a palace or church

**ed-i-fy** /ˈedɪfaɪ/ *v* [T] *fml* or *humor* to improve (the mind or character of): *a most edifying lecture* –see also **UN-EDIFYING**

**Ed-in-burgh** /ˈedɪnbərə/ the capital of Scotland, in the east of the country on the River Forth; a centre of business, education, the law, book production, engineering and other industries. It is also a centre of musical life, theatre, etc. and for this reason is sometimes called **the Athens of the North**. –see also **EDINBURGH FESTIVAL** and see colour map on page 818

**Edinburgh, Duke of** [*the*] –see **Prince PHILIP**


**Edinburgh Fes-tiv-al** /ˌɪdnɪbərə ˈfɛstɪvəl/ also **Edinburgh In-ter-na-tion-al Fes-ti-val of Mu-sic and Dra-ma**, ..... *– [the] a yearly programme of musical and theatrical events, and other entertainment, taking place over about three weeks in the summer in and around Edinburgh, one of the largest of its kind anywhere. Many of the main events are performed by world-famous groups, but there are also many other events performed by people such as university students, and these are known as the Fringe. Many famous writers and performers have begun their professional lives at the Edinburgh Festival.*

**Edinburgh rock** /ˌɪdnɪbərə ˈrɒk/ *n* [U] sweets made of sugar and coloured in many different colours

**Ed-i-son** /ˈedɪsən/, **Thom-as Al-va** /ˈtɒməs ˈælvə/ (1847–1931) an American inventor, most famously of the **LIGHT BULB** and of a way of sending electricity to distant places, but also of an early **MICROPHONE**, record player, and equipment for the cinema, **TELEGRAPH**, and telephone

**ed-it** /ˈedɪt/ *v* [T] **1** to prepare for printing, broadcasting,





**ef-fect** <sup>1</sup>/ɪˈfekt/ *n* [C;U (on, upon)] **1** a result or condition produced by a cause; something that happens when one thing acts on another: *One of the effects of this illness is that you lose your hair.* | *suffering from the effects of too much alcohol* | *The advertising campaign didn't have much effect on sales.* | *The disclosures had the effect of reducing the government's popularity.* **2** a result



In Britain all children have to go to school between the ages of 5 and 16. In the US children must go to school from the age of 6 to between the ages of 14 and 16, depending on the state they live in.

### Subjects

In England and Wales the subjects taught in schools are laid down by the NATIONAL CURRICULUM, which was introduced in 1988 and sets out in detail the subjects that children should study and the levels of achievement they should reach by the ages of 7, 11, 14, and 16, when they are tested.

The National Curriculum does not apply in Scotland, where each school decides what subjects it will teach.

In the US the subjects taught are decided by state and local governments.

Whereas British schools usually have prayers and religious instruction, American schools are not allowed to include prayers or to teach particular religious beliefs.

### Examinations

At 16 students in England and Wales take GCSE examinations. These examinations are taken by students of all levels of ability in any of a range of subjects, and may involve a final examination, an ASSESSMENT of work done during the two year course, or both of these things. At 18 some students take A-LEVEL examinations, usually in not more than 3 subjects. It is necessary to have A-levels in order to go to a university or POLYTECHNIC.

In Scotland students take the SCE examinations. A year later, they can take examinations called HIGHERS, after which they can either go straight to a university or spend a further year at school and take the Certificate of Sixth Year Studies. In Scotland the university system is different to that in England

and Wales. Courses usually last four years rather than three, and students study a larger number of subjects as part of their degree.

In the US school examinations are not as important as they are in Britain. Students in HIGH SCHOOLS do have exams at the end of their last two years, but these final exams are considered along with the work that the students have done during the school years.

As well as exams at school, American high school students who wish to go to college also take SATs, national examinations. A student's SAT results are presented to colleges when students apply for entry, along with a record of the student's achievements at high school.

### Social Events and Ceremonies

In American high schools there is a formal ceremony for GRADUATION (=completion of high school). Students wear a special CAP and GOWN and receive a DIPLOMA from the head of the school. Students often buy a class ring to wear, and a yearbook, containing pictures of their friends and teachers.

There are also special social events at American schools. Sports events are popular, and CHEERLEADERS lead the school in supporting the school team and singing the school song. At the end of their junior year, at age 17 or 18, students attend the junior-senior PROM, a very formal dance which is held in the evening. The girls wear long evening dresses and the boys wear TUXEDOS.

In Britain, there are no formal dances or social occasions associated with school life. Some schools have a SPEECH DAY at the end of the school year when prizes are given to the best students and speeches are made by the head teacher and sometimes an invited guest. However, in many British schools students and teachers organize informal dances for the older students.

UK			US	
class	school	age	school	class
	NURSERY SCHOOL, PLAYGROUP	3	NURSERY SCHOOL (optional)	
	or KINDERGARTEN (optional)	4		
reception class	INFANT SCHOOL	5	KINDERGARTEN	
year 1		6		first grade
year 2	JUNIOR SCHOOL	7		second grade
year 3		8	ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	third grade
year 4		9		fourth grade
year 5		10		fifth grade
year 6		11		sixth grade
year 7	SECONDARY SCHOOL	12	JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL	seventh grade
year 8		13		eighth grade
year 9		14		ninth grade (freshman)
year 10		15	HIGH SCHOOL	tenth grade (sophomore)
year 11		16		eleventh grade (junior)
year 12	SIXTH FORM COLLEGE	17		twelfth grade (senior)
year 13		18		freshman
first year (fresher)	UNIVERSITY or POLYTECHNIC	19	COLLEGE	sophomore
second year		20		junior
third/final year		21		senior
postgraduate	UNIVERSITY	22	GRADUATE SCHOOL	
		23		



produced on the mind or feelings; an IMPRESSION: *Her new red dress produced quite an effect on everyone.* | *Don't look at the details, consider the general effect.* | *Don't pay any attention to him — he's only doing it for effect.* (=to shock or surprise people) **3 in effect:** a in operation: *The old system of taxation will remain in effect until next May.* b in fact, although perhaps not appearing so: *Their response was in effect a refusal.* —see also EFFECTIVELY (2) **4 into effect** into operation: *A new system of taxation will come/be brought/be put into effect next May.* **5 take effect:** a to come into operation: *The new system will take effect next May.* b to begin to produce results: *The medicine quickly took effect.* **6 to . . . effect** fml with (the stated) general meaning or result: *He called me a fool, or words to that effect.* | *She has made an announcement to the effect that more people will lose their jobs.* | *These weapons were first used, to devastating effect* (=causing very great destruction), *in 1945.* —see also EFFECTS, GREENHOUSE EFFECT, SIDE EFFECT; see AFFECT (USAGE)

**effect**<sup>2</sup> v [T] fml to cause; produce: *We have tried our best to effect a reconciliation between the two parties.* —see AFFECT (USAGE)

**ef-fec-tive** /ɪ'fektɪv/ adj **1** producing the desired result: *Their efforts to improve the school have been very effective.* | *an effective treatment for hair loss* —opposite **ineffective** **2** having a pleasing effect; STRIKING: *That's rather an effective use of colour.* **3** [no comp.] actual; real: *Although there is a parliament, the army is in effective control of the country.* **4** [no comp.] in operation: *When does the new system become effective?* —compare EFFICACIOUS, EFFICIENT; see also COST-EFFECTIVE — ~ness n [U]

**ef-fec-tive-ly** /ɪ'fektɪvli/ adv **1** in an effective way **2** in fact, although perhaps not appearing so: *Effectively, their response was a refusal.* | *Chances of a settlement were effectively wrecked by this announcement.* —see also **in effect** (EFFECT<sup>1</sup>)

**ef-fects** /ɪ'fektz/ n [P] **1** things, such as recorded sounds, patterns of lights, man-made objects or creatures intended to seem real, that are produced to be heard or seen in a film, broadcast, or theatrical production: *He won an award for the special effects he did for this film.* —see also SOUND EFFECTS **2** fml or law belongings; personal property: *The deceased left no (personal) effects.*

**ef-fec-tu-al** /ɪ'fektʃuəl/ adj fml (of an action) producing the intended effect; effective: *effectual measures to combat unemployment* —opposite **ineffectual** — ~ly adv

**ef-fec-tu-ate** /ɪ'fektʃueɪt/ v [T] fml to carry out successfully; effect

**ef-fem-i-nate** /ɪ'femɪnət/ adj derog (of a man or his behaviour) having qualities that are regarded as typical of women; unmanly — ~ly adv —nacy n [U]

**ef-fer-vesce** /ɪ'fə'ves||,ɪfər-/ v [I] fml or tech (of a liquid) to have BUBBLES forming inside, usu. by chemical action. The bubbles are usu. produced quickly and in large numbers.

**ef-fer-vesc-ent** /ɪ'fə'vesənt||,ɪfər-/ adj **1** (of a liquid) effervescing **2** (of a person) full of life and excitement — ~ly adv —ence n [U]

**ef-fete** /ɪ'fi:t||e-/ adj fml derog **1** weak; worn out; having lost one's original power **2** effeminate: *an effete young man* — ~ness n [U]

**ef-fi-ca-cious** /ɪ'fɪ'keɪʃəs-/ adj fml (of a medicine, a course of action, etc.) producing the desired effect, esp. in curing an illness or dealing with a problem: *an efficacious remedy* —compare EFFECTIVE, EFFICIENT — ~ly adv

**ef-fi-ca-cy** /ɪ'fɪ'kəsi/ n [U] fml the quality of being efficacious

**ef-fi-cient** /ɪ'fɪʃənt/ adj working well, quickly, and without waste: *Our efficient new machines are much cheaper to run.* | *She is a quick efficient worker.* —opposite **inefficient** —compare EFFECTIVE, EFFICACIOUS — ~ly adv —ciency n [U]: *It would improve our efficiency if we used more up-to-date methods.*

**ef-fi-gy** /ɪ'fɪdʒi/ n [(of)] fml a likeness of a person, made of wood, paper, stone, etc.; often life size: *The protesters burnt an effigy of the Prime Minister.*

**ef-flo-res-cence** /ɪ'flə'reɪsəns/ n [U] fml or tech the period or action of the forming and developing of flowers on a plant

**ef-flu-ent** /ɪ'fluənt/ n [C usu. pl.;U] tech liquid waste, such

as chemicals or SEWAGE (human waste material), that flows out from a factory or similar place, usu. into a river or the sea: *There is a law against dangerous effluent(s) being poured into our rivers.*

**ef-flux** /'eflʌks/ n [U] fml or tech the outward flow of gas or liquid

**ef-fort** /'efət||'efɔ:t/ n **1** [S;U] (something that needs) the use of physical strength or power of the mind; trying hard with mind or body: *It's quite an effort to lift this heavy box.* | *It took a lot of effort to lift it.* | *We lifted it without much effort.* | *A great deal of effort has gone into this exhibition.* **2** [C] an attempt using all one's powers: *Despite all our efforts we were still beaten.* [+to-v] *The prisoner made no effort to escape.* (=didn't try to escape) | *Please make an effort (=try hard) to get there on time.* | *The company is selling off some of its buildings in an effort to save money.* **3** [C] something made or done as the result of trying: *Finishing the work in one day was a very good effort.* | *These essays of yours are very poor efforts.*

**ef-fort-less** /'efətɪləs||'efɔ:t-/ adj seeming to make or need no effort, yet very good: *She skates with such effortless grace.* — ~ly adv — ~ness n [U]

**ef-fron-te-ry** /ɪ'frʌntəri/ n [U] rudeness without any sense of shame; NERVE<sup>1</sup> (3): [+to-v] *You crashed my car and now you have the effrontery to ask to borrow my bicycle.*

**ef-ful-gent** /ɪ'fʌldʒənt||ɪ'fʊl-, ɪ'fʌl-/ adj lit shining brightly; BRILLIANT

**ef-fu-sion** /ɪ'fju:zən/ n fml derog an uncontrolled expression of strong feelings in speech or writing: *Her effusions of gratitude were clearly insincere.*

**ef-fu-sive** /ɪ'fju:zɪv/ adj often derog showing (too) much feeling: *Her effusive welcome made us feel most uncomfortable.* — ~ly adv: *He thanked them effusively.* — ~ness n [U]

**EFL** /,ɪ: ef 'el/ English as a Foreign Language; English as it is taught to people who do not speak it as their first language —compare ESL, ESOL, ESP, TEFL, TESOL

**EFTA** /'eftə/ European Free Trade Association; an association of some northern and central European countries which have a common market

**EFTPOS** /'eftpɒs||-pa:z/ n Electronic Funds Transfer at Point of Sale; a system which allows people to pay for goods in shops using a DEBIT CARD or CREDIT CARD to move money electronically from their accounts. EFTPOS is becoming widely used in shops in Britain as it is a quick and convenient method of paying for things.

**e.g.** /,ɪ: 'dʒi:z/ abbrev. for example: *You must avoid sweet foods, e.g. cake, chocolate, sugar, and ice cream.*

**e-gal-i-tar-i-an** /ɪ,gælɪ'teəriən/ adj often apprec having or showing the belief that all people are equal and should have equal rights: *an egalitarian society* — ~ism n [U]

**egg**<sup>1</sup> /eg/ n **1** [C] a rounded object with a usu. hard shell which is produced by a female bird, snake, etc., and which contains a baby animal until it has developed enough to come out: *The hen laid an egg.* | *The chick hatched out of the egg.* **2** [C;U] (the contents of) an egg, esp. one laid by a hen, when used for food: *I had a boiled egg for breakfast.* | *You've got egg all down your tie.* **3** [C] a cell produced by a woman or female animal, which joins with the male seed (SPERM) to make a baby **4** have 'egg on one's face infml to be made to seem foolish: *The committee's report, which describes this policy as "a total failure", has left the government with egg on its face.* **5** put all one's eggs in one basket infml to depend completely on the success of one thing: *When the company she'd invested all her money in went bankrupt, she wished she hadn't put all her eggs in one basket.* —see also NEST EGG, SCOTCH EGG, bad egg (BAD<sup>1</sup>)

**egg**<sup>2</sup> v

**egg** sbdy. on phr v [T] to encourage strongly, esp. to do something wrong: *He wouldn't have thrown that stone if the other boys hadn't egged him on.* [+obj+to-v] *They egged the crowd on to riot.*

**egg and spoon race** /,ɪ . . 'ɪ . . / n a race between people running while balancing an egg on a spoon. The winner is the first person to complete the distance without the egg falling off the spoon. Egg and spoon races are often held at children's school SPORTS DAYS.

**egg-cup** /'eg-kʌp/ n a small container without a handle that holds a boiled egg so that it can be eaten



**egg-head** /'eghed/ *n* *usu. derog* a clever, highly educated person, esp. one who is impractical

**egg-nog** /,eg'nɒg/ || 'egnɔ:g/ *n* [C;U] (a cupful of) a drink made from eggs, milk or cream, sugar, and usu. alcohol, esp. RUM, and drunk at Christmas and New Year in the US

**egg-plant** /'egplɑ:nt/ || 'egplænt/ *n* *esp. AmE* for AUBERGINE — see picture at VEGETABLE

**egg roll** /,ɪ·'·/ *n* *AmE* for SPRING ROLL

**egg-shell** /'egʃel/ *n* 1 the usu. hard outside part of an egg  
2 a type of paint with a smooth, dull finish

**egg tim-er** /'ɪ·,·/ *n* a small two-part glass container with sand in it that runs from one part to the other in about three minutes, which is used for measuring the time when boiling eggs

**e-go** /'i:ɡəʊ, 'egəʊ/ *n* **egos** 1 one's opinion of oneself; SELF-ESTEEM: *He has an enormous ego.* (=thinks he is a very fine person) | *Is success good for one's ego?* | *to boost someone's ego by praising them* 2 *tech* (in Freudian PSYCHOLOGY) the one of the three parts of the mind that connects a person to the outside world, because it can think and act; conscious self — compare ID, SUPEREGO; see also ALTER EGO

**e-go-cen-tric** /,i:ɡəʊ'sentrik/, ,e-/ *adj* *derog* thinking only about oneself rather than about other people; selfish — ~ally /kli/ *adv* — ~ity /,i:ɡəʊsen'trɪsɪti/, ,e-/ *n* [U]

**e-go-is-m** /'i:ɡəʊɪzəm, 'e-/ *n* [U] 1 *derog* the quality of always thinking about oneself and about what will be best for oneself; selfishness — compare ALTRUISM, EGOTISM 2 the belief that people's moral behaviour should be based on what is most advantageous to themselves —ist *n* —istic /,i:ɡəʊ'ɪstɪk/, ,e-/ *adj* —istically /kli/ *adv*

**e-go-ma-ni-a** /,i:ɡəʊ'meɪniə, e-/ *n* *esp. AmE, infml* extreme egoism (1): *Dictators often display egomania.* —maniac *n*

**eg-o-tis-m** /'i:ɡətɪzəm, 'e-/ *n* [U] *derog* the act of or tendency towards talking too much about oneself and believing that one is better and more important than other people —compare EGOISM (1) —tist *n* —tistic /,i:ɡə'tɪstɪk/, ,e-/ —tistical *adj* —tistically /kli/ *adv*

**ego trip** /'ɪ·,·/ *n* *sl derog* an act or set of acts done mainly because it makes one feel proud of oneself: *When he's lecturing he's not really bothered about the students learning. It's just an ego trip.* | *He's on a real ego trip at the moment.*

**e-gre-gious** /'ɪ'grɪdʒəs/ *adj* [A] *fml derog* (of something bad, such as a mistake) especially and noticeably bad; BLATANT: *It was an egregious error to address the Queen as "dear".* —~ly *adv*

**e-gress** /'i:gres/ *n* [U] *fml or law* the act, power, or right of going out, esp. from a building or enclosed place — opposite ingress

**e-gret** /'i:grɪt, -et/ *n* a fairly large long-legged water bird with long white feathers

**E-gypt** /'i:dzɪpt/ a country in north-east AFRICA and the SINAI PENINSULA bordering on the Mediterranean and Red Seas; capital Cairo; population 53,080,000 (1989). Egypt is known esp. for its ANCIENT CIVILIZATION, and many people go there to see the PYRAMIDS and other remains.

**E-gyp-tian** /'i:dzɪpʃən/ *adj* of, belonging to, or being a native of Egypt —Egyptian *n*

**E-gyp-tol-og-y** /,i:dzɪp'tələdʒi/ || -'tɑ:z-/ *n* the study of the buried remains and the language of Ancient Egypt: *the Egyptology Department at the British Museum* —gist *n*

**eh** /eɪ/ *interj* *BrE infml* (used for showing surprise or doubt, or when asking someone to agree or repeat what they have just said): *Let's have another drink, eh?* | *"I'm cold!" "Eh?" "I said I'm cold!"* —compare PARDON<sup>1</sup> (4)

**Eich-mann** /'aɪkmən, 'aɪx-/ , Ad-olf /'ædɒlf/ || 'eɪdɔ:lf/ (1906–62) an Austrian Nazi who was an SS official under Adolf Hitler, responsible for mass killings. He was executed (EXECUTE) after being found guilty of war crimes.

**ei-der-down** /'aɪdədaʊn/ || -dər-/ *n* a thick warm covering for a bed filled with the soft feathers (DOWN<sup>6</sup>) of a type of large black and white duck (eider duck)

**Eif-fel Tow-er** /,aɪfəl 'taʊə/ [the] a 300-metre-high metal tower in the centre of Paris, built in 1887–89. It is often thought of as representative of Paris or France.

**Ei-ger** /'aɪgə/ also **Eiger Moun-tain** /,ɪ·'·/ — [the] a mountain in the ALPS in Switzerland

**eight** /eɪt/ *determiner, n, pron* 1 (the number) 8 — see TABLE 1 2 [+sing./pl. v] a team of eight rowers in a racing boat: *The Oxford eight is/are using a new lightweight boat.* — see also PIECE OF EIGHT 3 **one over the eight** *BrE infml* slightly drunk — eighth /eɪθ/ *determiner, n, pron, adv*

**eigh-teen** /,eɪ'ti:n/ *determiner, n, pron* (the number) 18 — see TABLE 1,

► **CULTURAL NOTE** People are allowed to vote at the age of 18 in the UK and in most states in the US ◀

**18 – 30 hol-i-days** /,eɪtɪ:n 'θɜ:ti ,hɒlɪdɪz/ || -'θɜ:rti ,hɒlɪdɪz/ *n* [P] group holidays for people between the ages of 18 to 30, esp. people who are not married. The image that many people have of 18-30 holidays is that many of the people who go on them choose to spend their time drinking alcohol, having sex, and behaving badly.

**18-wheel-er** /,eɪtɪ:n 'wi:lə/ *n* *AmE* a very large TRUCK (=vehicle that carries goods on roads) which has 18 wheels. They are used esp. for moving goods over long distances.

**eighth note** /'ɪ·,·/ *n* *AmE* for QUAVER<sup>1</sup> (2) — see picture at NOTATION

**800 num-ber** /eɪt'hʌndrɪd ,nʌmbə/ also **800 line, toll-free number** *n* *AmE* a telephone number which one can telephone without paying for the call

**eighties** /'eɪtɪz/ *n* 1 [the] also '80s— the 1980s (=the years from 1980 to 1989) 2 **in his/her/their eighties** aged from 80 to 89: *He must be in his eighties now.* [the] 3 the numbers from 81 to 89, esp. when used to measure temperature: *a hot day with temperatures in the low eighties*

**86, eighty-six** /,ɪ·'·/ v [T] *AmE sl* to stop serving esp. food at a restaurant: *86 the salmon steak — we ran out of it.*

**eigh-ty** /'eɪti/ *determiner, n, pron* (the number) 80 — see TABLE 1 —tieth /'eɪtɪəθ/ *determiner, n, pron, adv*

**Ein-stein** /'aɪnstain/, Albert (1879–1955) an American PHYSICIST, born in Germany, who studied the behaviour of atoms and formed the THEORY OF RELATIVITY. Einstein is generally thought of as being one of the cleverest people ever born: *Go and ask Simon. He's the Einstein of the family.* | *By the time he was six he could do long division. We thought we had another Einstein on our hands.* | *You do not have to have the IQ of an Einstein to be a programmer.* | *He's no Einstein.*

Albert Einstein



**Ei-re** /'eərə/ the Republic of Ireland. Eire is its Irish GAELIC name. — see REPUBLIC OF IRELAND

**Ei-sen-hower** /'aɪzənhaʊə/, Dwight Da-vid /dwaɪt 'deɪvɪd/ (also called **Ike** /aɪk/ *infml*) (1890–1969) President of the US from 1953 to 1961. He was a general in the American army during the Second World War and one of the chief commanders of the forces fighting the Germans. He commanded them on D-Day.

**Ei-sen-stein** /'aɪzənstain/, Ser-gei Mi-khai-lo-vich /'seɪgeɪ mɪ'kaɪləvɪtʃ/ || seər'geɪ-/ (1898–1948) a Russian film director generally thought of as one of the greatest of all time and known esp. for *Potemkin* and *Alexander Nevsky*

**ei-stedd-fod** /aɪ'stedfəd/ || -vɑ:d/ [the] (*often cap.*) a yearly meeting in Wales at which competitions are held for Welsh poets, singers, and musicians. It is thought to be a great honour to win a prize or title at an eisteddfod.

**ei-ther**<sup>1</sup> /'aɪðə/ || 'i:z-/ *determiner* 1 one or the other of two: *She's lived in London and Manchester, but doesn't like either city very much.* | *You can get there by plane or by boat, but either way/in either case it's very expensive.* — compare ANY<sup>1</sup> 2 one and the other of two; each: *He sat in the car with a policeman on either side of him.* — compare BOTH (1)

**either**<sup>2</sup> *pron* one or the other of two: *There's coffee or tea — you can have either.* | *Take either of the books.*



▷ **USAGE** When **either** and **neither** are used as pronouns and followed by a plural noun, they usually take a singular verb in formal writing: *Is either/neither of the factories in operation yet?* But in speech and informal writing a plural verb is usually used: *Are either/neither of the teams playing this week?* <

**either**<sup>3</sup> *conj* (used to begin a list of two or more possibilities separated by **or**): *It's either a boy or a girl.* | *Either say you're sorry or (else) get out.* | *It's either blue, red, or green — I can't remember.* | *She's one of those people that you either love or hate.*

▷ **USAGE** **Either ... or** and **neither ... nor** are usually followed by a plural pronoun and plural verb, except in formal writing: *If either David or Janet come, they will want a drink.* In formal English this would be: *If either David or Janet comes, he or she will want a drink.* <

**either**<sup>4</sup> *adv* [only in negatives] also: *I haven't read this book, and my brother hasn't either.* (=both haven't read it) | *"I can't swim!" "I can't, either!" "Neither can I!"* (=I, too, am unable to swim.) —compare **TOO** (3)

**either-or** /ɪˌoʊ ˈ- / *adj* [A] *infml* needing or resulting in an unavoidable choice between only two possibilities: *We fight, or we surrender — it's an either-or situation.*

**e-jac-u-late** /ɪˈdʒækjʊleɪt/ *v* [I;T] **1** to cause (the male seed (SPERM)) to come suddenly out from the PENIS **2 fml** to cry out or say suddenly and shortly: *"Watch out!" he ejaculated.* —**-lation** /ɪˈdʒækjʊˈleɪʃən/ *n* [C;U]

**e-ject** /ɪˈdʒekt/ *v* [T (from)] *fml* to throw out with force: *They were making such a noise in the restaurant that the police came and ejected them.* —**-ion** /ɪˈdʒekʃən/ *n* [U]

**e-jec-tor seat** /-ˌ- / *esp. BrE* || **ejection seat** *esp. AmE* — *n* a seat which throws the pilot out and away from a plane when he or she can no longer control it and must reach the ground by PARACHUTE

**eke** /ɪːk/ *v*

**eke** sthg. ↔ **out** *phr v* [T (with, by)] **1** to cause (a small supply) to last longer by being careful or by adding something else: *She eked out her small income by cleaning other people's houses.* **2 eke out a living** to make just enough money to live on

**EKG** /ɪː keɪ ˈdʒiː/ *n* *AmE* for ECG

**el** /el/ also **L** *n* *AmE infml* the ELEVATED RAILWAY in Chicago, US

**e-lab-o-rate**<sup>1</sup> /ɪˈlæbəreɪt/ *adj* full of detail; carefully worked out and with a large number of parts: *She made elaborate preparations for the party, and then no one came.* | *The curtains had an elaborate pattern of flowers.* | *an elaborate excuse* — **-ly** *adv* — **-ness** *n* [U]

**e-lab-o-rate**<sup>2</sup> /ɪˈlæbəreɪt/ *v* [I (on)] to add more detail or information: *What you've told me of your plan sounds most interesting. Would you care to elaborate (on it)?* —**-ration** /ɪˈlæbəˈreɪʃən/ *n* [C;U]

**El Al-a-mein** /el ˈæləmeɪn/ a city on the north coast of Egypt

**El Alamein, Battle of** an important battle in 1942 during the Second World War in which Montgomery's British forces defeated Rommel's German and Italian soldiers thus ending a string of victories for Hitler

**é-lan** /ˈeɪlən||eɪˈlɑːn/ *n* [U] *Fr* liveliness and stylishness: *She played the piano with great élan.*

**e-land** /ˈiːlənd/ *n* **eland** or **eland** a large African ANTELOPE (=deerlike animal) with horns that curve round and round

**e-lapse** /ɪˈlæps/ *v* [I] *fml* (of time) to pass by: *Three months have elapsed since he left home.*

**e-las-tic**<sup>1</sup> /ɪˈlæstɪk/ *adj* **1** (of material such as rubber) able to spring back into shape after being stretched or bent: *This swimming costume is made of elastic material.* **2** (esp. of plans or arrangements) able to be changed if the situation changes; not fixed: *My timetable for this week is fairly elastic.* —**-ticity** /ɪˈlæsˈtɪsɪti/ *n* [U]

**elastic**<sup>2</sup> *n* [U] (a piece of) elastic material, esp. rubber: *I like these skirts with elastic round the waist.*

**elastic band** /-ˌ- / *n* *BrE* for RUBBER BAND

**E-las-to-plast** /ɪˈlæstəplɑːst||-plæst/ *n* [C;U] *BrE tdmk* a type of usu. pink elastic material used to cover a cut or small wound; a PLASTER<sup>1</sup> (2)

**e-lat-ed** /ɪˈleɪtɪd/ *adj* [(at, by)] filled with excited joy and

pride: *The elated crowd cheered and cheered.* | *She seemed elated at/by the news.* [F+to-v|that] *We were all elated to hear of the victory/elated that we had won.*

**e-la-tion** /ɪˈleɪʃən/ *n* [U] the state of being filled with excited pride and joy: *They couldn't conceal their elation.*

**El-ba** /ˈelbə/ an island west of Italy where NAPOLEON I was sent in 1814 after his defeat by Russia, Britain, Austria, and the other countries fighting against France

**el-bow**<sup>1</sup> /ˈelbəʊ/ *n* **1** [C] (the outer point of) a joint where the arm of a person or the FORELEG of an animal bends —see picture at HORSE **2** [C] the part of a garment which covers the elbow: *He had a patch on the elbow of his jacket.* **3** [C] something in the shape of an elbow, such as a joint in a pipe, chimney, etc. **4** [the+S] *BrE sl* dismissal from a relationship, one's job, etc.: *She got fed up with her boyfriend, so she gave him the elbow/he got the elbow.* **5 at one's elbow** *esp. BrE* close by and ready when needed

**elbow**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T+obj+adv|prep] to push with the elbows: *I tried to stop him, but he elbowed me out of the way.* | *She elbowed her way through the crowd.*

**elbow grease** /-ˌ- / *n* [U] *infml* hard work with the hands, esp. polishing and cleaning; often used in suggesting that one should work harder: *It's no use just passing the duster over it. It needs a bit of elbow grease.*

**el-bow-room** /ˈelbəʊrʊm, -ruːm/ *n* [U] space in which to move freely

**El Cid** /el ˈsɪd/ *Sp.* (c. 1030–99) a Spanish soldier who fought for both Christians and Moors and whose life is often seen as a perfect example of CHIVALRY, Christian values, and love of his country

**el-der**<sup>1</sup> /ˈeldəː/ *adj* [A *no comp.*] (of a person, esp. in a family) older, esp. the older of two; it is sometimes used because it seems politer than saying somebody is older, which they might think means they are old: *He is my elder brother.* | *Her elder daughter is married.* | [after *n*] *William Pitt the Elder was a British prime minister, and so was his son, William Pitt the Younger.* —compare YOUNGER

▷ **USAGE** Compare **elder** and **older**. **Older** is used of people or things, but **elder** is used only of people, and can never be used in comparisons: *Jane is Mary's elder sister.* | *Jane is older than (not elder than) Mary.* <

**elder**<sup>2</sup> *n* **1** the older one, esp. of two people: *Which is the elder (of the two sisters)?* | *You should have more respect for your elders.* (=people who are older than you) **2** a person who holds a respected, often official position: *The village elders are always consulted on important matters like this.*

**elder**<sup>3</sup> *n* a small tree with white flowers in large flat groups and black berries (elderberries). **Elderberry wine** and **elderflower wine** were once commonly made, esp. by country people. —see picture at BERRY

**el-der-ly** /ˈeldəli||ˈeldərli/ *adj* (of a person) old: *My father is rather elderly now and can't walk very fast.* [(also *n*, the+P)] *We should provide better care for the elderly.* | (fig.) *Their national airline consists of three or four rather elderly planes.*

▷ **USAGE** **Elderly** is a polite way of saying **old**. —see OLD (CULTURAL NOTE) <

**elder states-man** /-ˌ- / *n* an old and respected person, usu. no longer in a position of power, who is asked for advice because of his or her long experience, esp. in politics

**el-dest** /ˈeldɪst/ *n*, *adj* (a person, esp. in a family, who is) oldest of three or more: *She has three children, and her eldest has just started school.*

**El Do-ra-do, Eldorado** /el dəˈrɑːdəʊ/ a place of unbelievable wealth (from the land called El Dorado which the Spanish of the 16th century thought to exist somewhere in Central, S, or N America): *They go off to the big city thinking it's El Dorado and are quite amazed when they don't make their fortune.* | *the greatest natural-resources Eldorado of all — the carve-up of Antarctica's mineral wealth*

**e-lect**<sup>1</sup> /ɪˈlekt/ *v* [T] **1** [(to)] to choose (someone) for an official position by voting: *She has been elected to the committee.* | *They elected a President/elected him as President.* [+obj+n] *They elected him President.* [+obj+to-v] *They elected her to represent them on the committee.* **2** [+to-v;



Elections in Britain

Britain is divided into 650 political areas, known as constituencies (CONSTITUENCY) or SEATS. Each constituency is represented in the House of Commons by an MP (Member of Parliament), elected by the people in the constituency. At a GENERAL ELECTION, the people of Britain who are aged over 18 VOTE to choose who will serve in the House of Commons and which party will form the government.

The main political parties choose a CANDIDATE to fight for a seat in each constituency. So, in each constituency people usually have four or five candidates to choose from, each representing a different political party. People vote by putting a cross by the name of one of the candidates on the **ballot paper**. The person who is elected for each constituency is the one who gains the most votes within that constituency.

When voting is completed, the political party that has won the most seats is asked to form a government, and that party's leader becomes PRIME MINISTER, which means that they hold more seats than all the other parties together, and so cannot easily be defeated in votes in the House of Commons. Sometimes there is a **minority government** in which one party has more seats than any other party and can form a government, but does not have more seats than all the other parties together, so can easily be defeated in votes in the House of Commons. This situation is also called a **hung parliament**. In this situation, the ruling party may join with another party to form a **coalition** so that it can pass laws in the House of Commons. The longest time that a parliament can run is five years, but the Prime Minister has the power to **call an election** at any point within this period, usually depending on the government's opinion of whether they have a good chance of being re-elected.

Elections in the US

Congress, the central law-making body in the US, is made up of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES and the SENATE. Members of both houses are elected by the people of the state they represent. There are 435 members of the House of Representatives, called REPRESENTATIVES or CONGRESSMEN/ CONGRESSWOMEN. The number of Representatives for each state depends on the population of the state. States such as California, which has a large population, have many Representatives, while states with a low population, such as Wyoming, may have only one or two. States are divided into smaller areas called **districts**, and the people in each district elect one Representative. Elections are held for all the seats in the House of Representatives every two years.

There are 100 members of the Senate, called SENATORS, two for each state. Senators hold office for a term of six years. Every two years a third of the Senators are elected by the people.

General elections

Congressmen and Congresswomen usually belong to one of the two main political parties, but the party does not choose who runs for Congress. There is usually a primary election or CAUCUS held to decide which one of the candidates from each party will represent that party in the general election. In the general election, voters usually have a choice among candidates from the two main parties and candidates from small parties or ones who are running independently. The candidate who receives the most votes is elected.

Electing the President

Presidential elections are similar to elections for the House of Representatives and the Senate and are held every four years. Presidential candidates, who usually have experience in Congress or in state government, decide themselves if they want to run for president. Primary elections and caucuses are held in most states to help choose who will be each party's candidate in the presidential election. Primaries determine how many delegates to the party convention will vote for each candidate. The candidate with the most votes at the party convention is officially nominated (named) as that party's candidate.

Presidential elections work by a system called the ELECTORAL COLLEGE. Each state has a number of electoral college votes equal to the number of Senators and Representatives it has. The candidate who wins the most votes in a state receives all that state's electoral college votes. The candidate with the most electoral college votes wins the election and becomes the president. —see also pages 568 and 949

a ballot paper

Jane Dixon	Green	
Michael Fox	Conservative	
Robin James	Liberal Democrat	X
Sarah Wood	Labour	



*obj* fml to decide (to do something), esp. when choosing between possible courses of action: *Employees may elect to take their pension in monthly payments or as a single lump sum.*

**elect**<sup>2</sup> *adj* [after *n*] fml chosen for or elected to a position but not yet officially placed in it: *The President elect will be installed next week.*

**elect**<sup>3</sup> *n* [the+P] 1 people chosen by God to be saved 2 often humor a specially chosen and extremely important group of people: *The directors always listen to him. He's one of the elect.*

**e-lec-tion** /ɪˈlekʃən/ *n* [C;U] 1 (an example of) the choosing by vote of a representative to take an official (esp. political) position: *The Government has called a snap election.* (=decided suddenly and unexpectedly to have an election) | *The election results will be broadcast tonight.* | *Trade union representatives are chosen by election.* | *an election campaign* 2 **Election Day** (in the US) the day legally chosen for national elections, which is the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November, in even years (1992, 1994, etc.) US presidents are elected every four years. In some states Election Day is a public holiday. Bars and public places selling alcoholic drinks are closed on election day during the times when people can vote. —see also BY-ELECTION, GENERAL ELECTION and extra information on page 412

**e-lec-tion-ee-r-ing** /ɪˈlekʃəˈniəriŋ/ *n* [U] sometimes derog the work of persuading people to vote for a political party by visiting voters, making speeches, etc.

**e-lec-tive** /ɪˈlektɪv/ *adj* fml (of a position) for which the holder is chosen by election: *The office of President of the US is an elective one, but the position of Queen of England is not.*

**e-lec-tor** /ɪˈlektər/ *n* 1 a person who has the right to vote in an election 2 (in the US) a member of the Electoral College

**e-lec-to-ral** /ɪˈlektərəl/ *adj* [A] concerning elections or electors: *Many people say the electoral system in this country should be changed.* | *guilty of electoral malpractice* | *Have you got your name on the electoral roll/register?* (=the official list of people who have the right to vote)

**electoral col-lege** /ˌɪˌlektərəlˈdʒi/ *n* [C+sing./pl. v] (often cap.) a group of people who are given the right to elect a leader, esp. (in the US) the national body elected by the voters of each state to choose the President according to the votes of the people —see also extra information on page 412

**electoral re-gis-ter** /ˌɪˌlektərəlˈrɪstər/ *n* [C+sing./pl. v] also **electoral roll** /ˌɪˌlektərəlˈrɒl/ *n* [C+sing./pl. v] the official list of people who have the right to vote: *Have you got your name on the electoral register?*

**e-lec-to-rate** /ɪˈlektərɪt/ *n* [C+sing./pl. v] all the people in a country or an area who have the right to vote

**E-lec-tra com-plex** /ɪˈlektərəˈkɒmpleks/ *n* (in FREUDIAN PSYCHOLOGY) an unconscious sexual desire of a young girl for her father combined with hatred of her mother (from CLASSICAL MYTHOLOGY. After the death of her father, Electra helped her brother to kill their mother and her lover.) —compare OEDIPUS COMPLEX

**e-lec-tric** /ɪˈlektɪk/ *adj* 1 [no comp.] worked by electricity: *an electric clock/fire* —compare ELECTRICAL, ELECTRONIC 2 [A no comp.] produced by, producing, or carrying electricity: *electric power* | *an electric generator* (=that makes electricity) | *an electric storm* (=with thunder and lightning) 3 very exciting: *The atmosphere at the concert was electric.* | *His speech had an electric effect on the crowd.*

▷ **USAGE** **Electric** is used of things that produce electricity **b** of things directly worked or produced by electricity, especially things that might be worked by some other kind of power: *an electric generator/clock/light/shock.* **Electrical** is used of people and their work, or where the association with electric power is less direct: *an electrical engineer/electrical apparatus/an electrical fault in the system.* ◁

**e-lec-tri-cal** /ɪˈlektɪkəl/ *adj* [no comp.] concerned with or using electricity: *electrical engineering* | *electrical apparatus* | *I think the fault is probably electrical.* —compare ELECTRONIC; see **ELECTRIC (USAGE)** — ~ly /kli/ *adv*

**electrical ap-pli-ance** /ˌɪˌlektərəlˈaɪəns/ *n* a machine, usu. for use

in the house, which works by electricity: *ovens, fridges, and other electrical appliances*

**electrical en-gi-neer** /ˌɪˌlektərəlˈendʒiːnər/ *n* a person trained in electrical engineering

**electrical en-gi-neer-ing** /ˌɪˌlektərəlˈendʒiːnərɪŋ/ *n* [U] a branch of engineering which develops the use of electricity in practical ways

**electric blan-ket** /ˌɪˌlektərəlˈbɒŋkɪt/ *n* a double sheet of cotton, wool, or man-made material with electric wires passing through, used for making a bed warm. Electric blankets are made for use either above or beneath the body

**electric chair** /ˌɪˌlektərəlˈtʃeə/ *n* also **chair infml**— *n* [the] (punishment using) a chairlike apparatus with a supply of electricity which is used for killing certain criminals in some states of the US —see CAPITAL PUNISHMENT

**electric eye** /ˌɪˌlektərəlˈaɪ/ *n* infml for PHOTOELECTRIC CELL (2)

**electric fire** /ˌɪˌlektərəlˈfaɪə/ *n* a heater which works by electricity, usu. used to heat rooms in a house. The heat comes from wires made red-hot by the electricity.

**electric gui-tar** /ˌɪˌlektərəlˈɡɪtər/ *n* a GUITAR which works by electricity and is connected to a piece of equipment which makes the sound louder. Electric guitars are esp. used in popular music.

**e-lec-tri-cian** /ɪˈlektɪˈtʃiən/ *n* a person whose job is to fit and repair electrical apparatus

**e-lec-tri-ci-ty** /ɪˈlektɪˈtʃɪti/ *n* [U] 1 the power which is produced by various means (e.g. by a BATTERY or GENERATOR), which is carried usu. by wires, and which provides heat and light, drives machines, etc. 2 a feeling of great excitement, esp. one that spreads through a group of people

**electricity sup-ply** /ˌɪˌlektərəlˈsʌplɪ/ *n* the flow of electricity to a building, machine, etc.: *If you don't pay your electricity bill, your electricity supply will be cut off.*

**e-lec-trics** /ɪˈlektɪks/ *n* [P] BrE infml the wires and other equipment that work an electrical (part of an) apparatus: *I don't know why the car won't start; perhaps it's a problem in the electrics.*

**electric shock** /ˌɪˌlektərəlˈʃɒk/ *n* a shock to the body caused by electricity: *I got an electric shock when I touched that wire.*

**electric shock ther-a-py** /ˌɪˌlektərəlˈʃɒkˈθerəpi/ *n* [U] also **e-lec-tro-con-vul-sive therapy** /ɪˈlektərəlˈkɒnvʌlsɪvˈθerəpi/ *n* [U] med the treatment of MENTAL ILLNESS (=disorders of the mind) by passing a small electric current through the brain. This is a very CONTROVERSIAL method of treatment.

**e-lec-tri-fy** /ɪˈlektɪfaɪ/ *v* [T] 1 to change (something) to a system using electric power: *The national railway system has nearly all been electrified.* 2 to excite greatly: *The band gave an electrifying performance.* —**fi-cation** /ɪˈlektɪfaɪˈkeɪʃən/ *n* [U]

**electro-** see WORD FORMATION

**e-lec-tro-car-di-o-gram** /ɪˈlektərəlˈkɑːdiəgræm/ *n* [C] —see ECG (2)

**e-lec-tro-car-di-o-graph** /ɪˈlektərəlˈkɑːdiəgrɑːf/ *n* [C] —see ECG (1)

**e-lec-tro-cute** /ɪˈlektɪkjʊt/ *v* [T] to wound or kill by passing electricity through the body —**cution** /ɪˈlektɪkjʊʃən/ *n* [C;U]

**e-lec-trode** /ɪˈlektɪrəʊd/ *n* either of the two points (TERMINALS) at which the current enters and leaves a BATTERY or other electrical apparatus —see also ANODE, CATHODE

**e-lec-tro-en-ceph-a-lo-gram** /ɪˈlektərəlˈɛnsəfələgræm/ *n* [C] —see EEG (2)

**e-lec-tro-en-ceph-a-lo-graph** /ɪˈlektərəlˈɛnsəfələgrɑːf/ *n* [C] —see EEG (1)

**E-lec-tro-lux** /ɪˈlektɪrələks/ *tdmk* a company which makes VACUUM CLEANERS, REFRIGERATORS, and other electrical goods: *We've bought a new Electrolux fridge.*

**e-lec-tro-ly-sis** /ɪˈlektɪˈrɒlɪsɪs/ *n* [U] 1 the separation of a liquid into its chemical parts by passing electricity through it from an ANODE to a CATHODE 2 the destruction of hair roots by means of an electric current. Electrolysis is used to permanently remove unwanted hair on the legs, arms, and face, esp. by women: *You can have the hairs on your legs removed by electrolysis.*

**e-lec-tro-lyte** /ɪˈlektɪrəlaɪt/ *n* liquid, such as COPPER SULPHATE, which can be broken down into its chemical parts



- by passing electricity through it —**lytic** /ɪˌlektrəˈlɪtɪk/ *adj*
- e-lec-tro-mag-net-is-m** /ɪˌlektrəʊˈmæɡnɪtɪzəm/ *n* [C] one of the four FUNDAMENTAL FORCES in the universe, caused by the movement and exchange of positively and negatively charged bits of matter in atoms — **tic** /-mæɡˈnetɪk/ *adj*
- e-lec-tron** /ɪˈlektrɒn/ *n* a very small piece of matter that moves round the NUCLEUS (=central part) of an atom and that by its movement causes an electric current in metal. It carries a negative charge (CHARGE<sup>2</sup> (8)) — see also NEUTRON, PROTON
- e-lec-tron-ic** /ɪˌlekˈtrɒnɪk, ˌelɪkˈtrɒnɪk/ *adj* 1 using CHIPS, TRANSISTORS, or VALVES which have an effect on the electricity going through a piece of equipment, for example a radio, television or computer 2 using electronic equipment: *electronic warfare* | *electronic music* | *a factory that makes electronic components* | *I don't understand all this electronic wizardry that goes into making a computer.* — compare ELECTRIC (1), ELECTRICAL — **ally** /kli/ *adv*
- electronic funds trans-fer** /ɪˌfʌndz ˈtrænzˌfɜː/ *n* [U] a system of moving money from one place to another very safely and quickly by computer, used internationally by banks, shops, etc.
- electronic mail** /ɪˌfʌndz ˈmæɪl/ *n* [U] also **e-mail**— an electronic system which joins a group of computers, allowing people to send messages to each other on their computers
- e-lec-tron-ics** /ɪˌlekˈtrɒnɪks, ˌelɪk- / *n* [U] the study or making of apparatus that works electronically: *She works in electronics/in the electronics industry.*
- electronic tag-ging** /ɪˌfʌndz ˈtæɡɪŋ/ *n* [U] a way of punishing people who have committed crimes that are not very serious. The criminal is allowed to go home, but has a special band (**electronic tag**) containing electronic equipment around their wrist or ANKLE so that the police can always know where they are
- electron mi-cro-scope** /ɪˌlektrɒn ˈmaɪkrəˌskəʊp/ *n* a microscope which uses a beam of electrons to make very small things large enough to see
- e-lec-tro-plate**<sup>1</sup> /ɪˌlektrəʊˈpleɪt/ *v* [T] to coat (an object) thinly with metal by using ELECTROLYSIS: *Are these spoons solid silver or electroplated?* — see also EPNS
- electroplate**<sup>2</sup> *n* [U] electroplated goods
- electrostatic deposition analysis** *n* see ESDA TEST
- e-le-gant** /ˈelɪɡənt/ *adj* *apprec* 1 having the qualities of grace and beauty; stylish: *an elegant woman* | *elegant clothes/manners* | *an elegant piece of furniture* — opposite **inelegant** 2 (of an idea) pleasingly neat and simple: *an elegant piece of reasoning* — **ly** *adv* — **gance** *n* [U]
- e-le-gi-ac** /ˌelɪˈdʒiæk/ *adj* *fml* connected with elegies, esp. expressing sorrow for something that is lost: *His description of his youth at the end of the 19th century has an elegiac quality.* — **ally** /kli/ *adv*
- e-le-gy** /ˈelɪdʒi/ *n* a poem or song written to show sorrow for the dead or for something lost
- e-le-ment** /ˈelɪmənt/ *n* 1 [C] any of more than a hundred simple substances that consist of atoms of only one kind and that, alone or in combination, make up all substances: *Both hydrogen and oxygen are elements, but water, which is formed when they combine, is not.* 2 [S+of] (a small amount of) a quality which can be noticed: *There is an element of truth (=some truth) in what you say.* | *The darkness and fog gave the attackers the element of surprise.* | *There's always an element of risk in this sort of investment.* 3 [C] a part of a whole; COMPONENT: *Honesty is an important element in anyone's character.* 4 [C] also **elements pl.**— a particular group of people, esp. people who are regarded with disapproval, within a larger whole: *There's a rowdy element in this class that seems determined to spoil things for the rest.* | *lawless elements in the crowd* 5 [C] the heating part of a piece of electrical apparatus: *The element of this electric kettle has broken.* 6 [C] *old use* any of the four substances earth, air, fire, and water, from which (it was formerly believed) everything material was made 7 **in/out of one's element** doing/not doing what one is happiest or best at doing — see also ELEMENTS
- e-le-men-tal** /ˌelɪˈmentl/ *adj* of or like a great force of nature: *The storm struck with elemental fury.* — see also ELEMENTS (1)
- e-le-men-ta-ry** /ˌelɪˈmentəri/ *adj* 1 simple and easy: *The question/answer is elementary.* Many people know and use Sherlock Holmes's phrase “Elementary, my dear Watson” when someone asks them a question which seems difficult except to them. 2 concerning or introducing the first and most simple part of something, esp. of education or an area of study: *some elementary English exercises for the learner* 3 PRIMARY<sup>1</sup> (2)
- elementary par-ti-cle** /ɪˌleɪˈmentəri/ *n* *tech* any of the 20 or more types of small pieces of matter (including ELECTRONS, PROTONS, and NEUTRONS) which make up atoms
- elementary school** /ˌleɪˈmentəri/ *n* also **grade school, grammar school**— *n* *AmE* a school at which elementary subjects are taught for the first six years of a child's education — see also extra information on page 408
- e-le-ments** /ˈelɪmənts/ *n* [*the*+P] 1 the weather, esp. bad weather: *Shall we brave the elements and go for a walk?* (=in spite of the bad weather) — see also ELEMENTAL 2 [(of)] the first or most simple things one has to learn about a subject: *the elements of calculus*
- e-le-phant** /ˈelɪfənt/ *n* -**phants** or -**phant** a very large animal with two TUSKS (long curved teeth) and a TRUNK (long nose) with which it can pick things up. People sometimes say, “Elephants never forget”, because they are believed to have very good memories: *He's got the memory of/a memory like an elephant.* — see also PINK ELEPHANT, WHITE ELEPHANT
- e-le-phan-tine** /ˌelɪˈfæntaɪn/ *adj* often *humor* heavy and awkward like an elephant: *The big fat man walked with slow elephantine steps.*
- e-le-vate** /ˈelɪveɪt/ *v* [T] *fml* 1 to make finer, higher, or more educated: *Can't you read something more elevating than these silly romantic novels?* | *His elevated sentiments (=fine and noble words) were much admired by the audience.* 2 to raise to a higher rank or position: *He was elevated to the rank of captain.*
- elevated rail-way** /ɪˌleɪvətɪd ˈreɪlweɪ/ *n* a railway which runs on a kind of continuous bridge above the streets in a town. The elevated railway in Chicago is often called the **el** or **L**.
- e-le-vation** /ˌelɪˈveɪʃən/ *n* 1 [U] *fml* the act of elevating or the state or quality of being elevated: *His elevation to the position of First Secretary was announced yesterday.* | *The elevation (=fine and noble quality) of her style is much admired.* 2 [S] height above sea-level: *Their house is at an elevation of 2000 metres.* — compare ALTITUDE (1) 3 [C] (a drawing, esp. done by an ARCHITECT, of) a flat upright side of a building: *This drawing shows the front elevation of the house.* — compare FACADE (1), PLAN<sup>1</sup> (3), SECTION<sup>1</sup> 4 [S] the angle made with the horizon by pointing a gun, etc.: *The cannon was fired at an elevation of 60 degrees.* — compare TRAJECTORY 5 [C] *fml* a hill; a high place
- e-le-va-tor** /ˈelɪvətɔː/ *n* 1 *AmE* || **lift** *BrE*— an apparatus in a building for taking people and goods from one level to another. It is like a very small room, and moves up and down to each floor.: *I took the elevator to the 14th floor.* 2 a machine consisting of a moving belt with buckets, used for raising grain and liquids, unloading ships, etc. 3 a storehouse for grain 4 a movable part in the tail of an aircraft which makes it able to climb and descend — compare AILERON
- elevator mu-sic** /ɪˌleɪvətɔː ˈmjuːzɪk/ *n* [U] *AmE, infml, derog* a type of music played in SUPERMARKETS, etc. which is supposed to be relaxing and not stop you thinking about other things
- e-le-v-en** /ɪˈlevən/ *determiner, n, pron* 1 (the number) 11 — see TABLE 1 2 [+sing./pl. v] *BrE* a team of eleven players in football, cricket, etc.: *The school football eleven is/are playing tomorrow.* — **th** *determiner, n, pron, adv*
- eleven-plus** /ɪˌlevən ˈpʌs/ *n* [*the*+S] an examination for 11-year-old children used in Britain esp. before the introduction of COMPREHENSIVE education. The result of the examination decided whether a child went to a GRAMMARSCHOOL or a SECONDARY MODERN school.
- e-le-v-en-ses** /ɪˈlevən ˈzɛz/ *n* [U] *BrE infml* coffee, tea, or a light meal, which is taken at about 11 o'clock in the morning
- eleventh hour** /ɪˌlevən ˈhaʊər/ *n* [*the*] the very last moment: *War, which had seemed almost certain, was averted at the eleventh hour.*



**elf** /elf/ *n* **elves** /elvz/ a small fairy with pointed ears which is said to play tricks on people

**Elf** *tdmk* a French company which sells petrol in Britain: *There's an Elf garage on the ring-road.*

**el-fin** /'elfɪn/ *adj* of or like an elf: *her delicate elfin features*

**El-gar** /'elgɑːr/, **Sir Edward** (1857–1934) English **COMPOSER** of music for both instruments and voices, perhaps most famous for his *Enigma Variations*. He wrote the music for a **PATRIOTIC** song *Land of Hope and Glory*.

**El-gin Mar-bles** /'elgɪn 'mɑːbəlz/ -'mɑːr-/ *n* [*the* + **P**] **SCULPTURES** from the Parthenon in Greece brought to England by the Earl of Elgin in 1803 and now in the British Museum. Many people now think that Elgin had no right to bring the sculptures to Britain, and that they should be returned to Greece.

**El Greco** /,el 'grekəʊ/ (about 1541–1614) a Spanish artist famous for his religious paintings. He was called El Greco, “the Greek”, because he was born in Crete.

**e-li-cit** /'lɪsɪt/ *v* [**T** (**from**)] *fml* to succeed in drawing out (facts, information, etc.) from someone, esp. after much effort: *After much questioning, he elicited the truth (from the boy).* | *Their appeal for funds didn't elicit much of a response.* — **~ation** /'lɪsɪ'teɪʃən/ *n* [**U**]

**e-lide** /'lɪdaɪd/ *v* [**T**] to leave out the sound of (a letter or part of a word) in pronunciation: *We usually elide the “d” in “Wednesday”.* — **elision** /'lɪzən/ *n* [**C;U**]

**el-i-gi-ble** /'elɪdʒəbəl/ *adj* **1** [**F** (**for**)] fulfilling the necessary conditions: *Is she eligible for maternity leave?* [+to-*v*] *Anyone over the age of 18 is eligible to vote.* **2** suitable to be chosen, esp. for marriage (esp. of a man): *an eligible bachelor* — compare **MARRIAGEABLE** — **bility** /'elɪdʒə'bɪləti/ *n* [**U**]

**e-lim-i-nate** /'lɪmɪneɪt/ *v* [**T**] **1** [(**from**)] to remove or get rid of completely: *Can we ever eliminate hunger from the world?* | *Our team was eliminated (from the competition) in the first round.* | *The police have eliminated all the other suspects (=shown that they are not guilty), so only one now remains.* | *This new process has eliminated the need for checking the products by hand.* **2** *infml* to murder — **~nation** /'lɪmɪ'neɪʃən/ *n* [**U** (**from**)]: *Their elimination from the competition in the first round was a great surprise.* | *The police realized, by a process of elimination (=by eliminating each possibility in turn until only one was left), that the husband must have been the murderer.*

**E-lim Pen-te-cost-al Church** /'ɪlɪm pentɪ'kɒstl 'tʃɜːtʃ/ -'kɒːstl 'tʃɜːrtʃ, -'kɑːstl-/ [*the*] a **PROTESTANT** church, one of the two main **PENTECOSTAL** churches in Britain. Many members of the Elim Pentecostal Church are of W Indian origin.

**El-i-ot** /'eliət/, **George** (1819–80) an English woman writer (real name **Mary Ann** or **Marian Evans**), among the greatest English **NOVELISTS**. Her books show learning, humour, and feeling, and deal with morality. They give a detailed picture of many different people at all levels of English country society. Her most famous book was *Middlemarch*.

**Eliot, T S** (1888–1965) English poet and writer of plays, born in the US, who won the 1948 **NOBEL PRIZE** for literature. His works include *The Cocktail Party*, *The Waste Land*, and *The Lovesong of J. Alfred Prufrock*.

**e-lite** /eɪ'liːt, ɪ-/ *n* [**C**+*sing.*/*pl.* *v*] often *derog* a group that is of higher level or rank, e.g. professionally, socially, or in ability, or that has a great deal of power or influence in relation to its size: *The army was controlled by a small elite of officers.* | *She was chosen as one of the elite squad for the Olympic Games.* | *Only the educational elite go/goes to Oxford or Cambridge.*

**e-lit-is-m** /eɪ'liːtɪzəm, ɪ-/ *n* [**U**] *derog* (behaviour based on) the belief that there should be elites and that they deserve power, influence, special treatment, etc.: *It's sheer elitism to restrict these privileges to the management staff.* — **~ist** *adj, n*

**e-lix-ir** /'lɪksəːr/ *n* [(**for**)] *lit* something with a magical power to cure; **PANACEA**: *Don't imagine that lowering inflation is an elixir for all our economic ills.* | **the elixir of life** (=sthg. giving unending life)

**E-liz-a-beth I** /,lɪzəbəθ ðə 'fɜːst/-'fɜːrst/, **Queen** (1533–1603) a queen of England, daughter of **HENRY VIII**. She never married, and is thought of as a very strong woman. While she was **Queen CATHOLICS** were attacked and **PROTES-**

**TANTS** looked on favourably, the Spanish **ARMADA** was defeated, and **MARY QUEEN OF SCOTS** was murdered, but England became extremely powerful under her control. She is known for saying “I know I have the body of a weak and feeble woman, but I have the heart and stomach of a King...”

**Elizabeth II** /,lɪzəbəθ ðə 'sekənd/, **Queen** (1926– ) the queen of Britain since 1952, married to the Duke of **EDINBURGH**. She has four children: Prince **CHARLES**, Princess **ANNE**, Prince **ANDREW** and Prince **EDWARD**. —see colour picture on page 752



**E-liz-a-be-than** /,lɪzə'biːθən-/ *n, adj* (an English person) of or living in the period of Queen Elizabeth I of England: *Elizabethan drama* | *a famous Elizabethan* —see colour picture on page 227

**elk** /elk/ *n* **elks** or **elk** a very large European and Asian deer with very big flat **ANTLERS** (=branching horns), similar to the N American **MOOSE**

**Elks** /elks/ also the **Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks**— *fml* an organization for men with branches around the world but mostly in small towns and cities in the US: *Is your father an Elk?*

**El-ling-ton** /'elɪŋtən/, **Duke** (1899–1974) an American **JAZZ** musician who was a piano player, wrote music, and was leader of his own very successful big band. His many famous arrangements include *Mood Indigo* and *Sophisticated Lady*.

**el-lipse** /'lɪps/ *n* the curved shape that is seen when one looks at a circle sideways

**el-lip-sis** /'lɪpsɪs/ *n* -ses /sɪz/ [**C;U** (**of** )] (an example of) the leaving out of a word or words from a sentence when the meaning can be understood without them: *There is an ellipsis of “was” in the following sentence: “In the accident the child was hurt and the mother killed.” (=was killed)*

**el-lip-ti-cal** /'lɪptɪkəl/ also **el-lip-tic** /-tɪk/— *adj* **1** having the shape of an ellipse: *The Earth's path round the sun is elliptical.* **2** having the quality of ellipsis **3** *fml* (of speech or writing) difficult to understand because more is meant than is actually said: *an elliptical remark* — compare **CRYPTIC** — **~ly** /kli/ *adv*

**El-lis Is-land** /'elɪs ,aɪlənd/ a small island off New York City which for over 50 years (1892–43) was the first place in the US to which most people hoping to enter the US were taken: *He loved the American way of life from the moment he first set foot on Ellis Island.*

**elm** /elm/ *n* [**C;U**] (the hard heavy wood of) any of several large tall broad-leaved trees —see also **DUTCH ELM DISEASE**

**el-o-cu-tion** /,elə'kjuːʃən/ *n* [**U**] the art of good clear speaking in public, with proper attention to the control of the voice and the making of the sounds. People sometimes take elocution lessons to rid themselves of a non-standard way of speaking.

**e-lon-gate** /'ɪːlɒŋgeɪt/ -'lɒːŋ-/ *v* [**T**] to make (something) longer (in space but not time): *This picture you've painted isn't like me — the face is too elongated.* — **~gation** /,ɪːlɒŋ'geɪʃən/ -'lɒːŋ-/ *n* [**C;U**]

**e-lope** /'ləʊp/ *v* [**I** (**with**)] to run away secretly with the intention of getting married, usu. without parental approval: *She eloped with her lover.* | *She and her lover eloped.* — **~ment** *n* [**C;U**]

**el-o-quent** /'eləkwənt/ *adj* **1** *apprec* able to express ideas and opinions readily and well, so that the hearers are influenced: *an eloquent speaker* | *an eloquent appeal for support for the strike* **2** *fml* expressing or showing something very strongly though without words: *These ruins are an eloquent reminder of the horrors of war.* — **~ly** *adv* — **~quence** *n* [**U**]

**El Pas-o** /el 'pæsəʊ/ a city in W Texas in the US, on the Rio Grande —see colour map on pages 1374–5

**El Sal-va-dor** /el 'sælvədəːr/ a country in Central America,



bordering on the Pacific Ocean; capital San Salvador; population 5,207,000 (1989)

**else** /els/ *adv* **1** (after question words and some PRONOUNS) a besides; also: *I've said I'm sorry. What else (=what more) can I say?* | *Who else (=which other person or people) did you see?* | *Does anyone else want to look at this book?* | *I don't know the answer. You'll have to ask someone else.* **b** apart from that; otherwise; instead: *Everyone else but me (=all the other people) has gone to the party.* | *It's not in the cupboard. Where else could it be?* | *She was wearing someone else's coat. (=not her own)* **2 or else:** a or otherwise; or if not: *You must pay £100 or else go to prison.* | *The book must be here, or else you've lost it.* **b** (used for expressing a threat): *Do what I tell you — or else!*

**elsewhere** /els'weə, 'elsweə, 'elsweə/ *adv* at, in, from, or to another place: *tourists from France, Italy, and elsewhere* | *They were dissatisfied with this supplier, and decided to take their business elsewhere. (=to buy from somewhere else)*

**Elstree** /'elstri/ *also* **Elstree Stu-di-os** /,.. '.../ — a British film-making centre in N London started in the 1920s and popularly known as the British Hollywood although without such success

**ELT** /,ɪl el 'ti:/ *n* [U] *esp. BrE* English Language Teaching; the teaching of the English language to people whose first language is not English — compare EFL, TESOL

**El-ton** /'eltən/, **Ben** (1962– ) a British writer and performer of ALTERNATIVE COMEDY

**e-lu-ci-date** /ɪ'luːsɪdeɪt/ *v* [I;T] *fml* to explain or make clear (a difficulty or mystery); CLARIFY: *I don't understand; could you please elucidate?* | *Can anyone elucidate the reasons for this strange decision?* — **-dation** /ɪ'luːsɪ'deɪʃən/ *n* [U] — **-datory** /ɪ'luːsɪ'deɪtəri/ — *dəʊːəri/ adj*: a few elucidatory comments

**e-lude** /ɪ'luːd/ *v* [T] **1** to escape from, esp. by means of a trick: *The fox succeeded in eluding the hunters by running back in the opposite direction.* **2** (of a fact, answer, etc.) to be difficult for (someone) to find or remember: *I remember his face, but his name eludes me for the moment. (=I can't remember it)* | *A cure for this disease has so far eluded scientists.*

**e-lu-sive** /ɪ'luːsɪv/ *adj* difficult to catch, find, or remember: *I've been trying to get her on the phone, but she seems to be rather elusive.* | *Despite all their efforts, success remained elusive.* This word is used to describe the Scarlet Pimpernel, a character in the book of the same name who helped people escape from the French Revolution and who the French government could not catch. — see also SCARLET PIMPERNEL, they seek him here, they seek him there... (SEEK (6)) — *~ly adv* — *~ness n* [U]

**elves** /elvz/ *pl. of* ELF

**El-vis** /'elvɪs/ *also* **Elvis the Pel-vis** /,.. '.../ — see PRESLEY, Elvis

**Elvis sight-ing** /'.../ *n* *AmE* a reported appearance of the dead singer Elvis Presley. These are usu. intended as humour, though a few people seem to think that he is still alive.

**El-way** /'elweɪ/, **John** (1960– ) an American FOOTBALL (2) player who plays the position of QUARTERBACK

**E-ly** /'i:li/ a country town in the east of England with a famous CATHEDRAL and market

**E-lys-i-an Fields** /ɪ,lɪziən 'fi:ldz/ [ɪ,lɪzən-/ [the+P] Elysium

**E-lys-i-um** /ɪ'lɪziəm/ [ɪ'lɪziəm, -zi-/ *also* **Elysian fields** — *lit* a place or state of great happiness (from old Greek stories where Elysium was the place where good people went after their death)

**em-** see WORD FORMATION

**'em** /əm/ *pron infml or dial* for THEM: *Tell 'em what to do.*

**e-ma-ci-a-ted** /ɪ'meɪʃieɪtɪd/ *adj* extremely thin from hunger or illness: *By the time the prisoners were set free, they were terribly emaciated and could hardly walk.* — see THIN<sup>1</sup> (USAGE) — **-ation** /ɪ'meɪsɪ'eɪʃən/ *n* [U]

**e-mail** /'i: meɪl/ *n* [U] ELECTRONIC MAIL

**em-a-nate** /'eməneɪt/ *v*

**emanate from** sthg. *phr v* [T *no pass.*] *fml* (esp. of something nonmaterial) to come (out) from; **ISSUE from**: *Strange-smelling gases emanated from holes in the ground.* | *Do you know where these rumours emanated from?* — **-nation** /,emə'neɪʃən/ *n* [C;U]: strange-smelling emanations

**e-man-ci-pate** /ɪ'mænsɪpeɪt/ *v* [T (from)] to make free socially, politically, or legally: *She's a very emancipated woman. (=not limited by old-fashioned ideas about the position of women)* | (fig.) *This new machine will emancipate us from all the hard work we once had to do.* — **-pation** /ɪ'mænsɪ'peɪʃən/ *n* [U]: the emancipation of slaves/women

**Emancipation Proc-la-ma-tion** /... '.../ [the] the order by US President Abraham Lincoln on January 1, 1863, which ordered the end of slavery in the CONFEDERATE states during the American CIVIL WAR. This Proclamation was intended to weaken the Confederate states. Slavery was ended altogether soon after the Civil War by the 13th Amendment to the CONSTITUTION.

**e-mas-cu-late** /ɪ'mæskjʊleɪt/ *v* [T *often pass.*] **1** to take away all the strength and effectiveness from; weaken: *The proposed reform has been emasculated by changes made to it by parliament.* **2 med** to take away the power of becoming a father from; CASTRATE: (fig.) *There are still some men who feel emasculated if they work for a woman.* — **-lation** /ɪ'mæskjʊ'leɪʃən/ *n* [U]

**em-balm** /ɪm'baɪm/ — *'baɪm, -'baɪlm/ v* [T] to treat (a dead body) with special chemicals, oils, etc., in order to prevent it from decaying. Dead bodies are almost always buried or cremated (CREMATE) in Western society. In the US a body must by law be embalmed before it is buried. — *~er n*

**em-bank-ment** /ɪm'bæŋkmənt/ *n* **1** a wide wall of stones or earth built to keep a river from overflowing its banks or to carry a road or railway over low ground **2** a slope of earth, stone, etc., that rises from either side of a railway or road

**Embankment** *also* **Thames Embankment** — **1** [the] a road in London on the N bank of the River Thames **2** an underground (=TUBE<sup>4</sup>) station on the Embankment — see colour map on page 817

**em-bargo**<sup>1</sup> /ɪm'ba:gəʊ/ — *a:r-/ n* -goes [(on)] an official order forbidding trade, esp. with another country: *They've put an embargo on the supply of oil to the enemy.* | *All imports are now under an embargo.* | *They're accused of trying to break the oil embargo.* — compare BLOCKADE<sup>1</sup>, MORATORIUM

**embargo**<sup>2</sup> *v* -goes, -going, -goed [T] to put an embargo on

**em-bark** /ɪm'ba:k/ — *a:rk/ v* [I;T] to go, put, or take on a ship: *We embarked at Southampton and disembarked in New York a week later.* | *The ship embarked passengers and wool at an Australian port.* — see TRANSPORT<sup>1</sup> (USAGE) — **-ation** /,embə'keɪʃən/ — *ba:r-/ n* [C;U]

**embark on/upon** sthg. *phr v* [T] to start (esp. something new): *It's late in life to embark on a new career.* | *The railways are about to embark on a major programme of modernization.*

**em-bar-ras de ri-chesse** /əm,bærəz də ri:ʃes/ [a:mbəz-/ *n* too much of something good, e.g. wealth or many nice things to choose from, so that it is difficult to decide what to do

**em-bar-rass** /ɪm'bærəs/ *v* [T *often pass.*] **1** to cause to feel anxious and uncomfortable, esp. in a social situation; make SELF-CONSCIOUS: *She was embarrassed when they kept telling her how clever she was.* | *It was so embarrassing when the children started laughing in the middle of the service.* | *a series of revelations that has embarrassed the government* **2 fml** to cause to have difficulties with money: *financially embarrassed* (=having no money, or having debts) — *~ingly adv* — *~ment n* [C;U]: *He could not hide his embarrassment.* | *That rude child is an embarrassment to her parents. (=she embarrasses them)* | *Owing to my current financial embarrassment, I cannot pay the bill.*

**em-bas-sy** /'embəsi/ *n* (*often cap.*) (the official building used by) a group of officials, usu. led by an AMBASSADOR, who are sent by a government to live in a foreign country for the purpose of keeping good relations with its government: *the American Embassy in Moscow* — compare LEGATION

**em-bat-tled** /ɪm'bætld/ *adj* **1** surrounded by enemies: *Their embattled army finally surrendered.* **2** (of a person, company, etc.) continually troubled by annoying or harmful influences: *embattled companies fighting off takeover bids*

**em-bed** /ɪm'bed/ *v* -dd- [T (in)] to fix (something) firmly



and deeply in a mass of surrounding matter: *He couldn't move the sword; it was firmly embedded (in the rock).* | *The arrow embedded itself in the door.*

**em-bel-lish** /ɪm'belɪʃ/ *v* [T (with)] **1** to make more beautiful by adding decorations; ADORN: *a white hat embellished with pink roses* —see DECORATE (USAGE) **2** to make (a statement or story) more interesting by adding untrue details — **~ment** *n* [C;U]

**em-ber** /'embəʃ/ *n* [usu. pl.] a red-hot piece of wood or coal from or in a fire that is no longer burning with flames

**em-bez-zle** /ɪm'bezəl/ *v* [I;T] to steal (money that is placed in one's care): *The clerk embezzled £1000 from the bank where she worked.* — **~ment** *n* [U] — **-zler** *n*

**em-bit-ter** /ɪm'bitəʃ/ *v* [T often pass.] to fill with painful or bitter feelings; make sad and angry: *He was embittered by his many disappointments.*

**em-bla-zon** /ɪm'bleɪzən/ also **blazon** — *v* [T+obj+on, with] **1** to decorate (a shield or flag) with a COAT OF ARMS: *a flag with the family arms emblazoned on it* | *a flag emblazoned with the family arms* **2** to show in a very noticeable way: *The manufacturer's name is emblazoned on the packet.* —see SPREAD (USAGE)

**em-blem** /'embləm/ *n* [(of)] an object which is regarded as the sign of something, e.g. of a country, a group, or an idea: *The national emblem of England is a rose.* — compare SYMBOL (1)

**em-ble-mat-ic** /ɪmblə'mætɪk/ *adj* [(of)] acting as an emblem: *The crown is emblematic of the power of a king.* — **~ally** /kli/ *adv*

**em-bod-i-ment** /ɪm'bɒdɪmənt/ *n* [(the) S+of] someone or something that represents, includes, or is very typical of something: *The new factory is the embodiment of the very latest ideas.* | *He is the embodiment of evil.* (=is very evil)

**em-bod-y** /ɪm'bɒdi/ *v* [T (in)] **1** to include; INCORPORATE: *The new car embodies many improvements.* | *Many improvements are embodied in the new car.* **2** *fml* to express (an idea, principle, etc.) in a real or physical form that can be seen or noticed: *The country's constitution embodies the ideals of freedom and equality.* | *She embodies her principles in her behaviour.*

**em-bold-en** /ɪm'bəʊldən/ *v* [T] *fml* to give (someone) greater courage or the necessary courage to do something: *The protesters were emboldened by the fact that the police were unarmed.* [+obj+to-v] *She smiled, and this emboldened him to speak to her.*

**em-bo-lis-m** /'embəlɪzəm/ *n* *med* (something, such as a hardened mass of blood or an amount of air, which causes) a blocking of a tube which carries blood through the body

**em-bos-omed** /ɪm'bʊzəmd/ *adj* [F + *adv/prep*] *poet* enclosed or surrounded: *a house embosomed in trees*

**em-boss** /ɪm'bɒs/ *v* [T] **1** to make a raised pattern on the surface of (metal, paper, leather, etc.): [+obj+with] *The firm's paper is embossed with its name and address.* **2** to produce (an address or a decoration) in a form raised above the surface of metal, paper, leather, etc.: *The paper bore an embossed heading.* | [+obj+on] *The name and address of the firm are embossed on its paper.*

**em-brace** <sup>1</sup> /ɪm'breɪs/ *v* **1** [I;T] to take and hold (someone or each other) in the arms as a sign of love: *She embraced her son tenderly.* | *The two sisters met and embraced.* **2** [T] *fml* to include or cover: *This course of study embraces every aspect of the subject.* | *an all-embracing course* **3** [T] *fml* to make use of or accept eagerly: *to embrace an opportunity* **4** [T] *fml* to become a believer in: *She embraced socialism/the Muslim faith.*

**embrace** <sup>2</sup> *n* an act of embracing: *They met in a tender embrace.*

**em-bra-sure** /ɪm'breɪʒəʃ/ *n* an opening in the thick wall of a fort or castle that gets either wider or narrower towards the outside

**em-bro-ca-tion** /ɪmbrə'keɪʃən/ *n* [C;U] a liquid medicine used for rubbing a part of the body that is stiff or aching from exercise; it often smells very strongly —compare LINIMENT

**em-broi-der** /ɪm'brɔɪdəʃ/ *v* **1** [I;T (with)] to make a decorative needlework picture or pattern (on or of): *She sat embroidering to pass the time.* | *The dress was embroidered*

*with flowers/in silk thread.* | *I embroidered wild flowers and birds on the cloth.* | *an embroidered tablecloth* **2** [T (with)] to improve (a story or account of events) by adding details from the imagination; EMBELLISH

**em-broi-der-y** /ɪm'brɔɪdəri/ *n* **1** [C;U] (something made by) embroidering: *I did an embroidery of wild flowers and birds.* | *She's very good at embroidery.* **2** [U] imaginary details that are added to improve a story: *Just tell me the truth without a lot of embroidery!*

**em-broil** /ɪm'brɔɪl/ *v* [T (in) often pass.] to cause (oneself or another) to join in an argument or other difficult situation: *John and Peter were quarrelling, but Mary refused to get embroiled (in the argument).*

**em-bryo** /'embriəʊ/ *n* -os **1** the young of a creature in its first state before birth or before coming out of an egg — compare FOETUS **2** **in embryo** still developing; incomplete: *The plans are still in embryo.*

**em-bryo-nic** /ɪmbrɪ'ɒnɪk/ *adj* in an undeveloped or very early state of growth

**em-cee** MC /ɪm'siːz/ *n* *AmE infml* for MASTER OF CEREMONIES **emcee** *v*

**e-mend** /ɪ'mend/ *v* [T] to take the mistakes out of (something written) before printing —compare AMEND (1) — **~ation** /ɪːmen'deɪʃən/ *n* [C;U]

**em-e-rald** /'emərəld/ *n* [C;U] (the colour of) a bright green precious stone: *a ring set with emeralds* | *emerald green curtains*

**Emerald Isle** /ɪ... 'ɪ/ [the] *lit* or *humor* Ireland, so called because of the greenness of its country areas

**e-merge** /ɪ'mɜːdʒ/ *v* [I (from)] **1** to come out or appear from inside or from being hidden: *The sun emerged from behind the clouds.* | (fig.) *Several interesting new poets have emerged in recent years.* **2** to become known, esp. as a result of inquiry: *Eventually the truth of the matter emerged.* [it+I+that] *It later emerged that the driver of the car had been drunk.* **3** to be in a particular condition following a (usu. difficult) event or experience: *The President has emerged from this incident with his reputation intact.* | *After the election, the socialists emerged as the largest single party.* **4** to become an independent nation no longer ruled by another country: *Sophisticated weapons systems are being sold to emerging nations.* — **emergence** *n* [U]: *The 1960s saw the emergence of many new nations.*

**e-mer-gen-cy** /ɪ'mɜːdʒənsi/ *n* an unexpected and dangerous happening which must be dealt with at once: *Ring the bell in an emergency.* (=if there is an emergency) | *an emergency exit* (=for use in an emergency) | *The rioting grew worse and the government declared a state of emergency.* | *an emergency meeting of the leadership*

**emergency room** /ɪ... 'ɪ/ *n* *AmE* for CASUALTY (3)

**e-mer-gent** /ɪ'mɜːdʒənt/ *adj* [A] in the early stages of existence or development: *the emergent nations of Africa*

**e-mer-i-tus** /ɪ'merɪtəs/ *adj* [A; after *n*] (often *cap.*) (of a PROFESSOR or other university teacher) no longer holding office but keeping one's title; often used after RETIREMENT: *the emeritus professor of chemistry* | *She is Professor Emeritus of Latin.*

**Em-er-son** /'eməsən/ *mər-/*, **Ralph Wal-do** /rælf 'wɔːldəʊ/ (1803–82) an American poet and writer who had great influence on the religious and PHILOSOPHICAL thought of his time

**em-e-ry** /'eməri/ *n* [U] (usu. *in comb.*) powdered CORUNDUM (=a very hard mineral) which is used for polishing things and making them smooth: *She rubbed it with emery paper.* (=paper with emery stuck to it) | *He filed his nails with an emery board.*

**e-met-ic** /ɪ'metɪk/ *n, adj* (something, esp. medicine) eaten or drunk to cause a person to bring up food from the stomach through the mouth: *If someone drinks poison, give them an emetic at once.*

**EMF** /ɪː em 'ef/ *abbrev. for:* EUROPEAN MONETARY FUND

**EMI** /ɪː em 'aɪ/ *n* a large British CORPORATION which made electrical goods and records. It is now part of Thorn-EMI.

**em-i-grant** /'emɪgrənt/ *n* a person who emigrates —compare IMMIGRANT; see EMIGRATE (USAGE)

**em-i-grate** /'emɪgreɪt/ *v* [I (from, to)] to leave one's own country in order to go and live in another: *Her family*



*emigrated to America in the 1850s.* — **-gration** /,emɪ-  
'greɪʃən/ *n* [C;U]

▷ **USAGE** People who **emigrate** are **emigrants** from the country that they leave, and their action is called **emigration**: *A ship full of emigrants left Liverpool for Australia.* But from the point of view of the country they enter, the same people are **immigrants**, and their action is called **immigration**: *to pass through Immigration Control at the port.* To **migrate** is to move from one country to another for a limited period; the word is used especially of birds, and the action is called **migration**: *the spring migration of the wild ducks.* ◁

**ém-i-gré**, **émigré** /'emigreɪ/ *n* *Fr* someone who leaves their own country, usu. for political reasons: *There were many Russian émigrés living in Paris at that time.*

**em-i-nence** /'eminəns/ *n* **1** [U] the quality of being famous and of a high rank, esp. in science, the ARTS, etc.: *She achieved/won eminence as a painter/a scientist.* **2** [C] *fml* a hill or piece of high ground

**Eminence** *n* (used when speaking to, or speaking about, a CARDINAL (=a priest with a high rank in the Roman Catholic church)): *Good morning, Your Eminence.* | *Their Eminences have met to discuss the matter.*

**ém-i-nence grise** /,eminəns 'griz/ *n* **éminences grises** (same pronunciation) *Fr* someone who secretly has great influence (e.g. over a king or government) but does not hold an official position of power

**em-i-nent** /'eminənt/ *adj* (of a person) famous and admired; **DISTINGUISHED**: *Even the most eminent doctors could not cure him.* — compare **IMMANENT**, **IMMINENT**; — see **FAMOUS** (**USAGE**)

**eminent do-main** /,... 'l-/ *n* [U] *AmE* law the right of the government to take away private property from a person (usu. with payment) when there is a more important public use for it. For example, the government might wish to destroy houses in the path of a new road.

**em-i-nent-ly** /'eminəntli/ *adv* *fml* **apprec** very; perfectly: *Your decision was eminently fair/sensible.*

**e-mir** /e'mɪər/ also **amir**— *n* a Muslim ruler, esp. in Asia and parts of Africa

**e-mir-ate** /'emɪrət/ || 'mɪərət/ *n* the position, state, power, lands, etc., of an emir

**em-is-sa-ry** /'emɪsəri/ || -seri/ *n* *fml* a person who is sent with an official message or to do special work, often of a secret kind

**e-mis-sion** /'ɪmɪʃən/ *n* [C;U] *fml* the act of emitting or something emitted: *the sun's emission of light* | *We've been receiving powerful radio emissions from a distant star system.*

**emission stan-dards** /'... 's-/ *n* [P] a set of standards such as those agreed by the EC or the US to control the levels of **TOXIC** (=poisonous) waste produced by motor vehicles. Most people who want to protect the environment consider the emission standards to be a good idea.

**e-mit** /'ɪmɪt/ *v* -tt- [T] *fml* to send out (heat, light, smell, sound, etc.): **DISCHARGE** <sup>1</sup> (2): *The chimney emitted a cloud of smoke.* | (fig.) *John emitted a few curses.*

**Em-men-ta-ler**, **-thaler** /'eməntə:lər/ also **Swiss cheese** || **Swiss cheese** *AmE*— *n* [U] a pale yellow hard cheese of Swiss origin with large holes and a not very strong taste

**Em-mer-dale** /'emədəɪl/ || -ər-/ a popular British television SOAP OPERA about people who live on a farm in a small Yorkshire village

**Em-my** /'emi/ also **Emmys**, **Emmy A-ward** /'... 'w-/— *n* an American prize given each year to a number of people whose work of various kinds in television is excellent. It takes the form of a STATUETTE: *Sir John Gielgud has won the first Emmy Award, the highest award of American television.* — compare **OSCAR**

**e-mol-li-ent** /'ɪmɒliənt/ || 'mɑː-/ *n*, *adj* *fml* (something, esp. a medicine) which softens the skin and reduces pain when it is sore: *This is a powerful emollient against sunburn.* | (fig.) *His emollient words calmed the situation down.*

**e-mol-u-ment** /'ɪmɒljʊmənt/ || 'mɑː-/ *n* *fml* money or other form of reward received for work of a professional kind: *Emoluments connected with this position include free education for your children.* — compare **SALARY**, **FRINGE BENEFIT**

**e-mo-tion** /'ɪməʊʃən/ *n* **1** [C] any of the strong feelings of the human spirit: *Love, hatred, and grief are emotions.* | *His speech had an effect on our emotions rather than on our reason.* **2** [U] strength of feeling; excited state of the feelings: *She described the accident in a voice shaking with emotion.* — ~ **less** *adj* — ~ **lessly** *adv*

**e-mo-tion-al** /'ɪməʊʃənəl/ *adj* **1** having feelings which are strong or easily made active: *He got very emotional when we had to leave, and started to cry.* — opposite **unemo-tional**; see also **tired and emotional** (**TIRED**) **2** (of words, music, etc.) causing or intended to cause strong feeling: *I hate this slushy emotional music they play when two people kiss in a film.* **3** [no comp.] connected with one's emotions and one's ability to control them: *The child's bad behaviour is the result of emotional problems.* — ~ **ly** *adv*: *The child is emotionally disturbed.* | *Stop behaving so emotionally!*

**e-mo-tion-al-is-m** /'ɪməʊʃənəlɪzəm/ *n* [U] the quality of feeling or showing too much emotion, and of allowing oneself to be controlled by it

**e-mo-tive** /'ɪməʊtɪv/ *adj* causing strong feeling: *Capital punishment (=killing criminals) is a very emotive issue.* — ~ **ly** *adv*

**em-pan-el**, **im-** /ɪm'pænl/ *v* -ll- *BrE* || -l- *AmE*— [T] *fml* to make (a JURY (=12 people who decide in court whether the prisoner is guilty)) by choosing from a list of people who are suitable to serve on it

**em-pa-thy** /'empəθi/ *n* [S;U (**with**)] the ability to imagine oneself in the position of another person, and so to share and understand that person's feelings: *As a rich and privileged person she has very little empathy with the people she claims to represent.* — compare **SYMPATHY**

**em-pe-ror** /'empərə/ **empress** *fem.*— *n* the ruler of an empire

**Emperor's New Clothes** /,... 'l-/ **The** the title of a story by Hans Christian Anderson in which an EMPEROR is tricked into paying a lot of money for some new clothes. The clothes do not exist, but the emperor is told that they are magic clothes which cannot be seen by stupid people. Not wanting to say he cannot see them himself, the emperor wears nothing in a public PROCESSION and everyone pretends to see and admire the clothes until a child shouts, "But he doesn't have anything on!" The idea is now often used to describe situations where there is really nothing there, but nobody will say this: *The quality of the product is a bit like the emperor's new clothes—there only in the advertising.* | *Is it a masterpiece or a classic example of the Emperor's New Clothes?*

**em-pha-sis** /'emfəsɪs/ *n* -ses /sɪz/ [C;U (**on**, **upon**)] special force or attention given to something to show that it is particularly important: *Our English course places/lays/puts great emphasis on conversational skills.* | *a new economic policy, with a greater emphasis on reducing inflation* | "You're not coming, are you?" he said, with great emphasis on "you're". (=he said the word slowly and loudly)

**em-pha-size** also **-sise** *BrE* /'emfəsaɪz/ *v* [T] to place emphasis on: *He thumped the table with his hand to emphasize what he was saying.* [+that] *I'd like to emphasize (=to make this point very clearly) that we are ready to meet the management at any time.*

**em-phat-ic** /ɪm'fætɪk/ *adj* **1** done or expressed with emphasis; forceful: *She answered with an emphatic "No".* | *an emphatic refusal* **2** clear and undoubted: *an emphatic victory*

**em-phat-i-cally** /ɪm'fætɪkli/ *adv* **1** in a manner that shows emphasis: *"Certainly not," she said emphatically.* **2** most certainly: *I will emphatically not give my approval for this silly scheme.*

**em-phy-se-ma** /'emfɪ'si:mə/ *n* [U] a diseased condition in which the lungs become swollen with air, causing difficulty in breathing and often preventing the proper action of the heart

**em-pire** /'empaɪər/ *n* **1** (often *cap.*) a group of countries all ruled by the ruler or government of one particular country. A country which is ruled from another country is often called a COLONY: *The British Empire once covered large parts of the world.* **2** (esp. in business) a large organization or group of organizations: *He started off with one small factory, and now he's the head of a huge industrial empire.* | *Her empire building activities have*



included the purchase of several smaller companies. — compare KINGDOM

**Empire<sup>1</sup>** [the] the BRITISH EMPIRE

**Empire<sup>2</sup>** *adj* 1 of or connected with the British Empire: *He thinks he's still living in the Empire days.* 2 of or connected with the second or esp. the first French Empire and esp. connected with the style of buildings, furniture, and high-waisted women's dresses typical of that time

**Empire Day** /'i:--/ a day when British schoolchildren were encouraged to think about being citizens of the British Empire. It was celebrated on 24th May, Queen Victoria's birthday, from 1902 until 1958, when Commonwealth Day was introduced in its place.

**Empire State Building** /'i:-- 'i:--/ , also **Empire State**— [the] a building in New York City which has 102 floors and was for many years the tallest in the world —see colour map on page 1376

**Empire State Building**



**em-pir-i-cal** /im'pɪrɪkəl/ *adj* guided by or based on practical experience of the world we see and feel, not by ideas out of books: *We now have empirical evidence that the moon is covered with dust.* —cally /kli/ *adv*

**em-pir-i-cis-m** /im'pɪrɪsɪzəm/ *n* [U] the system of working by empirical methods

**em-place-ment** /im'pleɪsmənt/ *n* a special position prepared for a heavy gun or other piece of usu. military equipment to stand on

**em-plot** /im'plɒt/ *v* [T] 1 [(as)] to use the services of (a person or group) to perform work in return for pay; give a job to: *The firm employs about a hundred people/employs more women than men.* | *We employ her as an adviser.* | *The new contract will enable us to employ about 50 extra people.* [+obj+to-v] *We're employing a firm of architects to design a new extension.* —see also UNEMPLOYED 2 *fml* to use: *The police had to employ force to break up the crowd.* | *This bird employs its beak as a weapon.* 3 *be employed in doing something* to be busy doing something: *The children were employed in building sandcastles.*

**employ<sup>2</sup>** *n* [U] *fml* employment: *She has fifty workers in her employ.* (=she employs them)

**em-plot-a-ble** /im'plɒtəbəl/ *adj* (of a person) suitable to be employed —opposite **unemployable**

**em-plot-ee** /im'plɒɪ-i:z, ,em'plɒɪ'i:z/ *n* [(of)] a person who is employed: *a government employee* | *an employee of the government* | *The company has over 50 employees.*

**em-plot-er** /im'plɒɪə/ *n* a person or group that employs others: *The car industry is one of our biggest employers.*

**em-plot-ment** /im'plɒɪmənt/ *n* 1 [U] the state of being employed: *The number of people in employment (=who have jobs) has fallen.* —opposite **unemployment** 2 [U] paid work: *looking for employment* 3 [U+of] *fml* the act of using: *Do you think the employment of force was justified?* 4 [C] *fml* a useful activity: *Gardening is a pleasant employment for a Sunday afternoon.*

**Employment Act** /'i:-- 'i:--/ [the] a set of laws made in Britain in 1989 in order to replace old laws which were unfair to women, and to encourage equal opportunities (OPPORTUNITY) for men and women in employment

**Employment Ac-tion** /'i:-- 'i:--/ a British Government programme to give jobs for a certain period to people who have not had a job for a long time

**employment a-gen-cy** /'i:-- 'i:--/ see RECRUITMENT AGENCY

**employment ex-change** /'i:-- 'i:--/ *n* old-fash for JOB CENTRE

**Employment Train-ing** /'i:-- 'i:--/ also **ET**— *n* [U] a British government programme in the 1990s for training people who have been unemployed for six months or more to help them get jobs

**em-po-ri-um** /im'pɒ:riəm/ *n* -riums or -ria /riə/ *fml* or humor a large shop

**em-pow-er** /im'paʊə/ *v* [T+obj+to-v] *fml* to give (someone) the power or legal right to do something: *The new law empowered the police to search private houses.* —compare **ENABLE**, **ENTITLE**

**em-press** /'emprɛs/ *n* 1 a female **EMPEROR** 2 the wife of an **EMPEROR**

**emp-ti-ly** /'emptɪli/ *adv* in an **EMPTY<sup>1</sup>** (2) way

**emp-ty<sup>1</sup>** /'empti/ *adj* 1 containing nothing: *I see your glass is empty; can I fill it up?* | *There are three empty houses in our street.* (=no one lives in them) | *I won't have my children going to school on an empty stomach.* (=not having eaten anything) [F+of] *At this time of night the streets are empty of traffic.* 2 *derog* (of words, actions, etc.) without sense or purpose; meaningless, unreal, or insincere: *Her protest was an empty gesture; she knew it would have no effect.* | *empty promises/threats* —tiness *n* [U]

**empty<sup>2</sup>** *v* 1 [I;T (of, out)] to make or become empty: *They emptied the bottle.* (=drank or poured out all that was in it) | *The police made him empty (out) his pockets.* (=remove their contents) | *The room emptied very quickly.* | *to empty a bag of its contents* 2 [T+obj+adv/prep] to put by removing from a container: *He emptied the biscuits onto the plate.* | *They emptied the rubbish into plastic bags.* 3 [I (into)] to send or move its contents out: *The River Nile empties (=flows) into the Mediterranean Sea.*

**empty<sup>3</sup>** *n* [usu. pl.] *infml* a container that has been emptied: *She took all the empties (=empty bottles) back to the shop.*

**empty-hand-ed** /'i:-- 'i:--/ *adv* bringing nothing with one, esp. because no advantage or profit has been gained: *They came back from the negotiations empty-handed.*

**empty-head-ed** /'i:-- 'i:--/ *adj infml* foolish and silly; completely lacking the power of serious thought or feeling

**EMS** /i:z em 'es/ *abbrev. for:* EUROPEAN MONETARY SYSTEM

**e-mu** /'i:mju:z/ *n* **emus** or **emu** a large Australian bird which has a long neck and long legs but cannot fly

**EMU** /i:z em 'ju:z/ *n* **Economic and Monetary Union**; the planned system for one economic plan and the same money for all the members of the EC

**em-u-late** /'emjʊleɪt/ *v* [T] 1 to try to do as well as or better than (another person): *His ambition was to emulate his mother and become a member of parliament.* (=she had been one) 2 (of computers and electronic equipment) to perform in the same way as (a different computer or piece of equipment): *Will this terminal emulate a VT220?* —lation /'emjʊ'leɪʃən/ *n* [U] (of)

**e-mul-si-fi-er** /i'mʌlsɪfaɪə/ *n* something added esp. to prepared food to keep liquids and solids from separating; a kind of food **ADDITIVE**

**e-mul-si-fy** /i'mʌlsɪfaɪ/ *v* [T] *tech* to make into an emulsion

**e-mul-sion<sup>1</sup>** /i'mʌlsɪʃən/ *n* [C;U] 1 a creamy mixture of liquids which do not completely unite, such as oil and water 2 the substance on the surface of a photographic film which makes it sensitive to light 3 emulsion paint

**emulsion<sup>2</sup>** *v* [T] *BrE infml* to paint with emulsion paint

**emulsion paint** /'i:-- 'i:--/ *n* [C;U] *BrE* paint for walls and other surfaces inside buildings in which the colour is mixed into an emulsion and which is not shiny when it dries —compare **ENAMEL**, **GLOSS PAINT**

**EN** /i:z 'en/ *abbrev. for:* ENROLLED NURSE

**en-** see **WORD FORMATION**

**en-a-ble** /i'neɪbəl/ *v* [T] 1 [+obj+to-v] to make able; give the power, means, or right to do something: *This bird's large wings enable it to fly very fast.* | *The fall in the value of the pound will enable us to export more goods.* | *This dictionary will enable you to understand English words.* —compare **EMPOWER**, **ENTITLE** 2 to make possible: *an expansion programme that will enable a large increase in student numbers*

**en-a-bling** /i'neɪblɪŋ/ *adj* [A] (of a law) making something



emu



possible or giving someone special powers: *Before these changes to the constitution can be made, the necessary enabling legislation will have to be passed.*

**en-act** /ɪˈnækt/ *v* [T] 1 to make into law: *Several bills (=plans for laws put forward for consideration) were enacted at the end of this session of Parliament.* 2 *fml* to perform (a play or a part in a play) — ~ **ment** *n* [C;U]

**e-nam-el** /ɪˈnæmə/ *n* [U] 1 a glassy substance which is melted and put onto objects made of metal, glass, or clay and then hardens to form a decoration or protection 2 a paint which is used esp. on wood to produce a very shiny surface —compare EMULSION PAINT 3 the hard smooth outer surface of the teeth —see picture at TEETH

**enamel**<sup>2</sup> *v* -ll- *BrE* || -l- *AmE*— [T] to cover or decorate with ENAMEL<sup>1</sup> (1,2)

**e-nam-el-ware** /ɪˈnæməlwɛə/ *n* [U] metal pots and pans for cooking which are covered with ENAMEL<sup>1</sup> (1)

**en-am-oured** *BrE* || **enamored** *AmE* /ɪˈnæməd/ -ərd/ *adj* [F+of, with] very fond of; liking very much; charmed: *He's so enamoured of his own plan that he won't even consider mine.* | *I'm not very enamoured of this new scheme.*

**en bloc** /ɒn ˈblɒk/ || ˈblɒk/ *adv* *Fr* all together as a single unit: *The whole department resigned en bloc.*

**en-camp** /ɪnˈkæmp/ *v* [I;T *usu. pass.*] to make or place in a camp: *The army encamped there for the night.* | *The soldiers were encamped on the edge of the forest.* | (fig.) *The news reporters had encamped themselves outside my house and refused to go away until I agreed to speak to them.*

**en-camp-ment** /ɪnˈkæmpmənt/ *n* a large esp. military camp

**en-cap-su-late** /ɪnˈkæpsjʊleɪt/ -sə-/ *v* [T (in)] to express the main points or ideas of (something) in a short form or a small space: *I think this one sentence encapsulates her whole philosophy.* — **-lation** /ɪnˈkæpsjʊˈleɪʃən/ -sə-/ *n* [C;U]

**en-case** /ɪnˈkeɪs/ *v* [T (in) *often pass.*] to cover completely: *His body was encased in armour.*

**en-chain** /ɪnˈtʃeɪn/ *v* [T] *lit* to hold (as if) in chains

**en-charm** /ɪnˈtʃɑːnt/ || ɪnˈtʃænt/ *v* [T] 1 [*often pass.*] to fill with delight; charm: *He was enchanted by/with the idea.* | *an enchanting child* 2 *lit or old use* to use magic on: *a palace in an enchanted wood* —see also DISENCHANTED

**en-charm-er** /ɪnˈtʃɑːntə/ || ɪnˈtʃæn-/ *n* a magician

**en-charm-ment** /ɪnˈtʃɑːntmənt/ || ɪnˈtʃænt-/ *n* 1 [C;U] a delightful influence or feeling of delight: *The beauty of the scene filled us with enchantment.* 2 [C] *lit or old use* a condition caused by magic powers; SPELL<sup>3</sup>

**en-charm-ress** /ɪnˈtʃɑːntrɪs/ || ɪnˈtʃæn-/ *n* 1 a woman of great sexual charm 2 a female magician

**en-chi-la-da** /ɪntʃɪˈlɑːdə/ *n* -das a Mexican food consisting of a TORTILLA that is filled with small pieces of meat, or cheese, etc., rolled up, and covered with a hot-tasting SAUCE

**en-cir-cle** /ɪnˈsɜːkəl/ -3ːr-/ *v* [T] to surround; form a circle round: *Rebel forces had encircled the airport.* | *He encircled her in his arms.* | *The house was encircled by/with trees.* — ~ **ment** *n* [U]

**en-clave** /ˈenkleɪv, ˈeɪ-/ *n* a part of a country, or a group of people of a separate race or nation, which is completely surrounded by another

**en-close** /ɪnˈkləʊz/ *v* [T] 1 [*often pass.*] to surround with a fence or wall so as to shut in: *The garden is enclosed by a high wall.* 2 to put inside an envelope, esp. in addition to something else: *I enclose a cheque for £50 (with this letter).*

**en-clo-sure** /ɪnˈkləʊzə/ *n* 1 [C] an enclosed place: *There's a special enclosure where you can look at the horses before the race starts.* 2 [C] something put in an envelope with a letter 3 [U (of)] the act of enclosing or state of being enclosed: *The enclosure of public land meant that ordinary people could no longer use it.*

**en-code** /ɪnˈkəʊd/ *v* [T] to put (e.g. a message) into a CODE —opposite **decode**

**en-co-mi-um** /ɪnˈkəʊmiəm/ *n* -miums or -mia /miə/ *fml* an expression of very high praise; EULOGY

**en-com-pass** /ɪnˈkæmpəs/ *v* [T] 1 to include or be concerned with (a wide range of activities, subjects, ideas, etc.); COMPRISE: *The course encompasses the whole of English literature since 1850.* | *a large company whose activities encompass printing, publishing, and computers* 2

*fml* to surround completely: *The enemy encompassed the city.* | (fig.) *Doubts and fears encompassed her.*

**en-core** /ˈɒŋkɔːr/ || ˈɑːŋ-/ *n* *Fr* 1 (used as a call for more, by listeners who have been pleased by a performance, esp. a musical one) 2 an additional or repeated performance given esp. by a musician at the end of a performance

**en-coun-ter** /ɪnˈkaʊntə/ *v* [T] *fml* 1 to meet or have to deal with (something bad, esp. a danger or a difficulty); be faced with: *We encountered a lot of problems/opposition.* 2 to meet unexpectedly: *She encountered a friend on the plane.*

**encounter**<sup>2</sup> *n* ((with)) 1 a sudden meeting, either unexpected or dangerous: *I had a close encounter with a poisonous snake.* 2 **close encounter of the ... kind** *humor* an experience of meeting or being very close to someone or something, esp. someone or something unusual (from the title of the film *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*): *I've just had a close encounter of the parliamentary kind—I met my MP.*

**en-cour-age** /ɪnˈkʌrɪdʒ/ || ɪnˈkʌr-/ *v* [T] 1 to make (someone) feel brave enough or confident enough to do something, by giving active approval: *You should encourage her in her attempts to become a doctor, instead of being so negative about it.* [+obj+to-v] *He encouraged me to apply for the job.* 2 to give active approval to; support; FOSTER (2): *It's in companies' interests to encourage union membership.* | *In their view, the benefit system just encourages laziness.* —opposite **discourage** — ~ **ment** *n* [C;U] : *Your words were a great encouragement to me.* | *I couldn't have done it without your encouragement.*

**en-cour-aged** /ɪnˈkʌrɪdʒd/ || ɪnˈkʌr-/ *adj* [F (at, by)] feeling new courage, hope, and confidence: *They were encouraged at/by the news.* [+to-v] *I was encouraged to hear you'll be giving us your support.*

**en-cour-ag-ing** /ɪnˈkʌrɪdʒɪŋ/ || ɪnˈkʌr-/ *adj* causing feelings of courage, hope, and confidence: *The latest trade figures are very encouraging.* | *It's encouraging that so many young players are coming into the team.* — ~ **ly** *adv*

**en-croach** /ɪnˈkrəʊtʃ/ *v*

**encroach on/upon** sthg. *phr v* [T] to take more of (something) than is right, usual, or acceptable; INTRUDE upon: *His new farm buildings encroach on his neighbour's land.* | *Be careful not to encroach on her sphere of authority.* — ~ **ment** *n* [C;U (on, upon)]: *I resent all these encroachments on my valuable time.*

**en-crust-ed** /ɪnˈkrʌstɪd/ *adj* [F+with, in] completely covered with a large amount of: *She wore a gold crown encrusted with jewels.* | *His boots were encrusted in mud.*

**en-cum-ber** /ɪnˈkʌmbə/ *v* [T (with)] *fml* to make action or movement difficult for; weigh down: *She was encumbered with heavy suitcases/with debts.* — **-brance** *n* : *These heavy suitcases are a great encumbrance.*

**en-cyc-lic-al** /enˈsɪklɪkəl/ *n* a letter sent by the POPE (=the head of the ROMAN CATHOLIC church) to all Roman Catholic BISHOPS

**en-cy-clo-pe-di-a**, -**paedia** /ɪnˈsaɪkləˈpiːdiə/ *n* a book or set of books dealing with every branch of knowledge, or with one particular branch, usu. in alphabetical order: *A dictionary deals with words and an encyclopedia deals with facts.* | *an encyclopedia of modern science*

**Encyclopaedia Bri-tan-ni-ca** /ɪnsaɪkləˈpiːdiə brɪˈtænɪkə/ [the] a very large encyclopedia with many VOLUMES, generally regarded by British and American people as being an excellent place to find information

**en-cy-clo-pe-dic**, -**paedic** /ɪnˈsaɪkləˈpiːdɪk/ *adj* *apprec* (of knowledge, memory, etc.) wide and full, like the contents of an encyclopedia

**end**<sup>1</sup> /end/ *n* 1 [C (of)] the point at which something stops or after which it no longer exists: *A rope has two ends.* | *Which end of the box has the opening?* | *We walked to the end of the garden/the road.* | *Have you reached the end of the story?* | *I started work at the end of August.* | *a successful end to the negotiations* | *The year is at an end/has come to an end.* (=has finished) | *Her story was a pack of lies from beginning to end.* | *If he passes the exam we'll never hear the end of it.* (=he will never stop talking about it) 2 [C] a little piece left over: *cigarette ends* —see also ODDS AND ENDS 3 [C] also **ends pl.** — *fml* an aim or purpose: *Does the end/Do the ends justify the means?* | *He wants to buy a house, and is saving money to that end.* | *She will stop at nothing to achieve her ends.* 4 [C]



*informal* a particular part, e.g. of a business or activity: *My partner looks after the advertising end.* | *Let's hope that they keep their end of the bargain.* **5** [C usu. sing.] *euph* a person's death: *His end was peaceful.* —see also **STICKY END** **6** [the+S] *informal* (used as an expression of amused or weak disapproval): *Look at your dirty hands — you really are the (absolute) end!* **7** *at the end of the day* when everything is considered; this expression is now used so frequently as to be almost meaningless: *At the end of the day, it's the government's responsibility to stop this sort of thing from happening.* **8** *end to end* with the points or the narrow sides touching each other: *We can provide seats for ten people if we put these two tables end to end.* **9** *in the end*: **a** at last; **FINALLY**: *He tried several times to pass the exam, and in the end he succeeded.* **b** when everything is considered: *In the end, I think one must blame these children's parents.* —see **LASTLY** (USAGE) **10** *get/have one's end away* *informal, sl* to have sex: *He'll be hoping to have his end away.* **11** *keep one's end up* *informal, esp. BrE* to go on facing difficulties bravely and successfully **12** *living end* *AmE, informal* (used as an expression of strong approval or disapproval): *Well — isn't that the living end!* | *She really is the living end!* **13** *make (both) ends meet* *informal* to get just enough money for all one's needs: *She scarcely earns enough money to make ends meet.* **14** *no end* *informal* very much; very pleasingly: *Your latest book amused me no end.* **15** *no end of* *informal* an endless amount of; very great deal of: *It caused me no end of worry.* **16** *on end*: **a** (of time) without a break; continuously: *He sat there for hours on end.* **b** upright: *We had to stand the table on end to get it through the door.* **17** *put an end to* to stop from happening or existing any more: *I'm determined to put an end to all these rumours.* **18** *the end (of the world) is nigh* the world is going to end very soon; a phrase written on large boards carried in the street by religious people who want to warn others to lead better lives because they will soon die and be judged by God; often used humorously —see also **BIG END**, **DEAD END**, **LOOSE END**, **SHARP END**, **TAIL END**, **BE-ALL AND END-ALL**, **thrown in at the deep end** (**DEEP**), **the thick end of** (**THICK**<sup>1</sup>), **get the wrong end of the stick** (**WRONG**<sup>1</sup>)

**end**<sup>2</sup> *v* [I;T] **1** to (cause to) finish; come or bring to an end: *The party ended at midnight.* | *The war ended in 1975.* | *He ended his letter with good wishes to the family.* | *The news of their marriage ended weeks of speculation.* | *The story ends on a hopeful note.* **2** *end it all* *euph* to kill oneself

▷ **USAGE** Compare **end** and **finish**. **1** When used transitively, **finish** is much more common than **end**: *Have you finished your work yet?* When used intransitively, **finish** is more informal than **end**, but **end** is commonly used in writing: *What time did the party finish?* | *The concert ended at 10 o'clock.* | *Their holiday ended in tragedy.* **2** **End** cannot be used with a verb ending in **-ing** in sentences like this: *Have you finished reading that book I gave you?* <

**end in** sthg. *phr v* [T no pass.] to have as a result at the end: *The battle ended in victory.* | *Their marriage ended in divorce.*

**end up** *phr v* [L] to be in the end (in the stated place, condition, etc.): *He ended up (as) head of the firm.* | *We set off for Newcastle but ended up in Scotland.* [+v-ing] *We didn't like it at first, but we ended up cheering.*

**en-dan-ger** /ɪn'deɪndʒə/ *v* [T] to cause danger to: *You will endanger your health if you work so hard.* | (law) *He was charged with possessing explosives with intent to endanger life.*

**endangered species** /ˌɛndəndʒəd/ *n* a type of animal or plant which is in danger of becoming **EXTINCT** (=may soon disappear from the world): *As a result of widescale land drainage, the swallow-tail butterfly has become an endangered species.*

**en-dear** /ɪn'diə/ *v*

**endear** sbdy. to sbdy. *phr v* [T] to cause to be loved or liked by: *His kindness endeared him to everyone.* | *His habit of playing loud music at night didn't endear him to the neighbours.*

**en-dear-ing** /ɪn'diəriŋ/ *adj* causing feelings of love or liking: *an endearing smile* — ~ly *adv*

**en-dear-ment** /ɪn'diəmənt/ *n* [C;U] (an expression of) love: *He was whispering endearments to her.*

**en-deav-our**<sup>1</sup> *BrE* || -or *AmE* /ɪn'devəʊ/ *v* [I+to-v] *fml* or

*pomp* to try: *I will endeavour to pay the bill as soon as possible.*

**endeavour**<sup>2</sup> *BrE* || -or *AmE*— *n* [C;U] *fml* or *pomp* (an) effort: *They couldn't do it, despite their best endeavours.* (=they tried as hard as possible) | *The climbing of Mount Everest was an outstanding example of human endeavour.* [+to-v] *She made no endeavour/every endeavour to help us.*

**en-dem-ic** /en'demɪk, ɪn-/ *adj* (esp. of a disease) found regularly in a particular place: *This chest disease is endemic among miners in this area.* —compare **EPIDEMIC**, **PANDEMIC**

**end game** /'ɛnd ɡeɪm/ *n* the last stage in the game of **CHESS**, when most of the playing pieces have been taken from the board

**end-ing** /'endɪŋ/ *n* the end of a story, film, play, or word: *Children like stories with happy endings.*

**en-dive** /'endɪv||'endaɪv/ *n* [C;U] **1** *BrE* || also **chicory** *AmE*— a plant with curly green leaves which are eaten raw **2** *AmE* the white inner leaves of the **CHICORY** plant

**end-less** /'endləs/ *adj* **1** never finishing (esp. of something unpleasant); having or seeming to have no end: *The journey seemed endless.* | *I'm fed up with your endless complaining.* **2** *tech* (of a belt, chain, etc.) circular; with the ends joined: *The machine drives an endless belt.* — ~ly *adv*

**en-do-crine gland** /'endəukrɪn, ˌglænd, -kraɪn-/ also **duct-less gland**— *n* *med* an organ of the body (such as the **PITUITARY** and **THYROID GLANDS**) which pours **HORMONES** (=substances which start up processes in the body) into the blood for them to be carried round the body

**en-dorse**, **in-** /ɪn'dɔ:s||-ɔ:rs/ *v* [T] **1** to express approval or support of (opinions, actions, a person, etc.): *The committee's report fully endorses the government's proposals.* | *When the former President endorsed her candidacy, she knew she had a good chance of being elected.* **2** to write something, esp. one's name, on the back of (esp. a cheque) **3** [usu. pass.] *BrE* (of a court) to write a note on (a driving **LICENCE**) to say that the driver has broken the law — ~ment *n* [C;U] : *If you get any more endorsements you won't be allowed to drive.*

**en-dow** /ɪn'dau/ *v* [T] to provide (a hospital, college, etc.) with a usu. large amount of money that gives a continuing income

**endow** sbdy. with sthg. *phr v* [T usu. pass.] *fml* to provide with (a good quality or ability) from birth: *She is endowed with both beauty and brains.*

**en-dow-ment** /ɪn'daʊmənt/ *n* **1** [C usu. pl.] *fml* or *humor* a quality that a person has; **ATTRIBUTE**: *His natural endowments are somewhat limited, and scarcely fit him for this post.* **2** [U] the act of endowing **3** [C usu. pl.] the money that an organization receives when it has been endowed

**endowment mort-gage** /'ɛndəʊmənt/ *n* a **MORTGAGE** (=lending of money to buy a house) which is paid back by the money gained from an endowment policy

**endowment pol-i-cy** /'ɛndəʊmənt/ *n* a type of insurance agreement by which a person pays money regularly over a number of years so that an agreed amount will be paid to them at the end of that time, or to their family if they die before then

**end prod-uct** /'ɛnd ˌprɒdʌkt/ *n* something which is produced as the result of a number of operations, esp. industrial processes: *Our raw material is oil, and our end product is nylon stockings.* —compare **BY-PRODUCT**

**en-due** /ɪn'dju:||ɪn'du:/ *v*

**endue** sbdy. with sthg. *phr v* [T] *fml* to fill (a person) with (a good quality): *endued with a spirit of public service*

**en-dur-ance** /ɪn'djʊərəns||ɪn'dʊər-/ *n* [U] the power of enduring: *Long-distance races are won by the runners with the greatest endurance.* | *The course is a real test of endurance.*

**en-dure** /ɪn'djʊəʃ||ɪn'dʊər/ *v* **1** [T] to bear (pain, suffering, etc.) patiently or for a long time: *They endured tremendous hardship on their journey to the South Pole.* [+to-v/v-ing] *I can't endure to see/endure seeing animals suffer like that.* **2** [I] *fml* to remain alive or in existence, esp. in spite of difficulty: *We can't endure much longer in this desert without water.* | *Her fame will endure for ever.* | *enduring fame* —see **BEAR** (USAGE) —~durable *adj*

**end us-er** /'ɛnd ʊs-ər/ *n* the person who actually uses a product:



*These books are sold to schools, but the end users are the students.*

**end-ways** /'endweɪz/ also **end-wise** /-waɪz/ *esp. AmE—adv*  
**1** with the end forward; not sideways: *The box is quite narrow when you look at it endways (on).* **2** with the ends touching each other: *Put the tables together endways.*

**en-e-ma** /'enɪmə/ *n* **1** the putting of a liquid (such as medicine) into the bowels through their lower opening (the RECTUM) **2** an amount of liquid put in like this

**en-e-my** /'enəmi/ *n* **1** a person who hates and opposes another person; one of two or more people who hate and oppose each other: *He's a ruthless businessman and he's made a lot of enemies.* (=a lot of people hate him) | *John and Paul are enemies.* (=of each other) | (fig.) *Abraham Lincoln was the enemy of slavery.* (=fought against it) | *She's her own worst enemy.* (=stupidly does things that harm herself) **2** [+sing./pl. v] (the armed forces of) a country with which one is at war: *The enemy had advanced and was/were threatening our communications.* | *enemy forces/missiles*

**en-er-get-ic** /,enə'dʒetɪk-/-ər-/ *adj* full of energy; very active: *an energetic tennis player* | *an energetic supporter of the peace movement* — **~ally** /kli/ *adv*

**en-er-gize** also **-gise** *BrE* /'enədʒaɪz/-ər-/ *v* [T] *esp. tech* to give energy to: *Food energizes the body.*

**en-er-gy** /'enədʒi/-ər-/ *n* [U] **1** the quality of being full of life and action; power and ability to do a lot of work or be physically active: *Young people usually have more energy than the old.* **2** also **energies** *pl.*— the power which one can use in working: *You'll need to apply/devote all your energy/energies to this job.* | *I didn't have the energy to disagree with her.* **3** the power which can do work, such as drive machines or provide heat: *atomic/electrical energy* | *The sun's energy* (=which keeps it burning) *will last for millions of years.* | *a cheap source of energy*

**en-er-vate** /'enəveɪt/-ər-/ *v* [T] *fml* to make weak; take away energy from; **DEBILITATE**: *He was enervated by his long illness.* | *I find this heat very enervating.*

**en-fant ter-ri-ble** /,ɒnfən te'ri:blə/, ɑ:nfɑ:n-/ *n* **enfants terribles** (same pronunciation) *Fr* a shocking but also often interesting and amusing person: *the enfant terrible of the British film industry*

**en-fee-ble** /ɪn'fi:blə/ *v* [T often pass.] *fml* to make weak; cause to lose strength completely: *The country was enfeebled by war, drought, and disease.* — **~ment** *n* [U]

**En-field** /'enfi:ld/, **Harry** (1961– ) an English writer and COMEDIAN who writes for and appears in many successful radio and television programmes and who invented the character Loadsamoney — see also **LOADSAMONEY**

**en-fi-lade** /'enfɪleɪd, -lə:d/ *v* [T] to shoot at with gunfire directed along the length of a line of soldiers in battle — **enfilade** *n*

**en-fold** /ɪn'fəʊld/ *v* [T (in)] to enclose, esp. in one's arms: *She enfolded the child lovingly in her arms.*

**en-force** /ɪn'fɔ:s/-ɔ:rs/ *v* [T] **1** to cause (a rule or law) to be obeyed or carried out effectively: *Governments make laws and the police enforce them.* **2** [(on, upon)] to make (something) happen, esp. by threats or force; **IMPOSE**: *They tried to enforce agreement with their plans.* — **~able** *adj* — opposite **unenforceable** — **~ment** *n* [U]: *The police are responsible for the enforcement of the law.*

**en-forced** /ɪn'fɔ:st/-ɔ:rst/ *adj* made to be so by the way things happened; not able to be anything else: *He was shipwrecked on an uninhabited island and spent a year in enforced solitude.*

**en-fran-chise** /ɪn'fræntʃaɪz/ *v* [T] **1** to give the right to vote at elections: *When were women enfranchised in Britain?* — opposite **disenfranchise** — see also **FRANCHISE**<sup>2</sup>, **SUFFRAGE** **2** to free (a slave) — **~ment** /-tʃaɪz-/ *n* [U]

**en-gage** /ɪn'geɪdʒ/ *v* *fml* **1** [T] to attract and keep (the interest and attention) of (someone): *The new toy didn't engage the child/the child's attention for long.* **2** [I (with); T] to (cause to) fasten onto, fit into, or lock together with another part of a machine: *This wheel engages with that wheel and turns it.* | *When the two wheels engage the smaller one will start to turn.* | *She engaged the clutch and the car moved forwards.* — opposite **disengage** **3** [I (with); T] to begin to fight (with): *They engaged the enemy (in battle).* | *The two fleets engaged at dawn.* — opposite

**disengage** **4** [T (as)] *esp. BrE* to arrange to employ (someone): *I've engaged a new assistant/engaged him as my new assistant.* [+obj+to-v] *I've engaged a man to work as your assistant.* **5** [T] *esp. BrE* to order (a room, seat, etc.) to be kept for one: *I've engaged a room at the hotel.*

**engage in** *phr v* [T] *fml* **1** (**engage in** sthg.) to take part in: *Politicians should not engage in business affairs that might affect their political judgment.* **2** (**engage** sbdy. in sthg.) to make (someone) join with one in: *While one of the robbers engaged the guard in conversation, the others crept into the factory.*

**en-ga-gé** /,ɒŋgæ'ʒeɪ/, ɑ:ŋgɑ:-/ *adj* [F] *Fr* actively concerned with esp. political questions

**en-gaged** /ɪn'geɪdʒd/ *adj* **1** [(to)] having agreed to marry: *Our son is engaged (to a nice young woman).* | *Edward and I are engaged/have got engaged.* | *They're engaged to be married.* **2** [F (in, on)] busy; spending time on doing something: *"Can you come on Monday?" "No, I'm engaged."* (=I've arranged to do something) | *Come on Monday evening if you are not otherwise engaged.* (=doing something else) | *The company is engaged in a legal dispute with one of its suppliers.* **3** [F] *BrE* || **busy** *AmE—* (of a telephone line) in use: *Sorry! The line/number is engaged.* | *I keep getting the engaged tone.* — see **TELEPHONE (USAGE)** **4** [F] (of a public TOILET) in use — opposite **vacant** (for (4))

**engaged tone** /- ' -/ *BrE* || **busy signal** *AmE— n* [often the] the sound one hears from a telephone when the person one has rung is already on the telephone to somebody else: *I keep getting the engaged tone.*

**en-gage-ment** /ɪn'geɪdʒmənt/ *n* **1** [C] an agreement to marry: *Have you heard that John has broken off his engagement to Mary?* (=said he no longer wishes to marry her)

► **CULTURAL NOTE** It is still the custom in Britain and the US for a man and woman who are going to marry to **get engaged**. They tell their family and friends, and may put a notice in the newspaper. Sometimes they have a party. The man usually gives the woman an engagement ring. There is usually a period of time between the engagement and the wedding for the two people to save money, find somewhere to live, make wedding plans, etc., and to be sure of their decision. ◀

**2** [C] an arrangement to meet someone or to do something: *I can't see you on Monday because I have a previous/prior engagement.* (=one made at an earlier time)

**3** [C] *esp. tech* a battle: *Although it was only a short engagement, a lot of men were killed.* **4** [U] the engaging (**ENGAGE** (4)) of parts of a machine

**engagement par-ty** /- ' -/ *n* a party to celebrate an engagement. Guests usu. take a present which will be useful to the people getting married.

**engagement ring** /- ' -/ *n* a ring, usu. containing precious stones, esp. **DIAMONDS**, which a man gives to a woman when they decide to marry, and which she wears on the third finger of her left hand (the one to the left of the longest finger when you are looking at the back of your left hand) — see picture at **RING**

**en-gag-ing** /ɪn'geɪdʒɪŋ/ *adj* *apprec* charming: *an engaging smile* — **~ly** *adv*

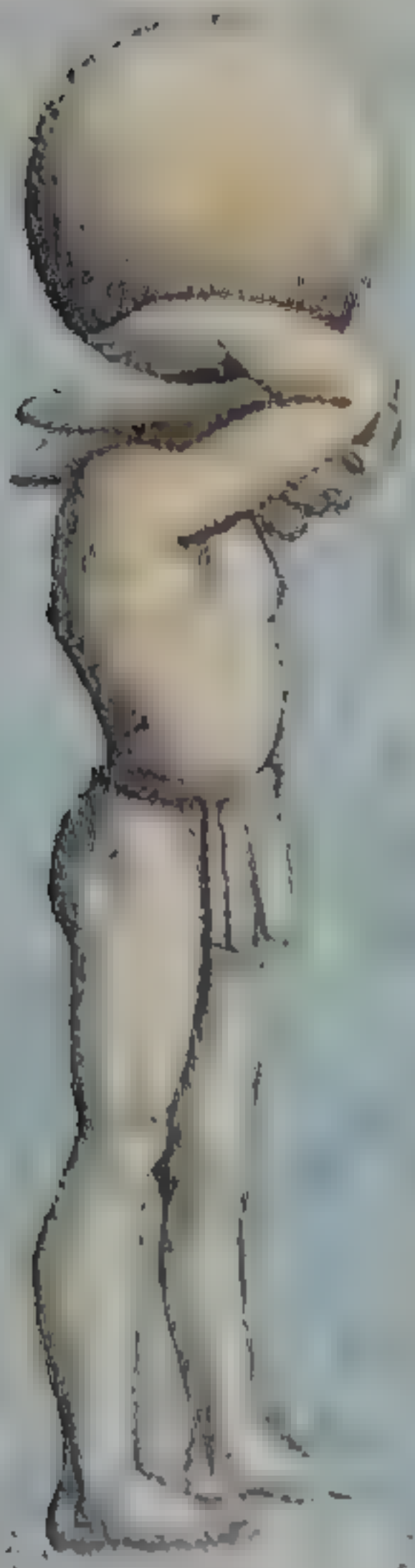
**Eng-els** /'eŋgəlz/, **Frie-drich** /'fri:drɪk, -ɪx/ (1820–95) a German political thinker and **REVOLUTIONARY** (=person active in trying to change the existing social and political system) who together with Karl **MARX** wrote *The Communist Manifesto* and helped to begin the political system of **COMMUNISM**. Although Engels and Marx worked together on their ideas, many people think that Marx alone was the father of Communism.

**en-gen-der** /ɪn'dʒendə/ *v* [T] *fml* to produce or be the cause of (a state, feeling, etc.): *Racial inequality engenders conflict.*

**en-gine** /'endʒɪn/ *n* **1** a piece of machinery with moving parts which changes power from steam, electricity, oil, etc., into movement: *the engine of a car* | *a jet engine* | *engine trouble.* **2** also **locomotive** *fml*— a machine which pulls a railway train **3** **-engined** /endʒɪnd/ having an engine or engines of the stated kind or number: *a twin-engined aircraft* (=having two engines) | *a diesel-engined car* — see also **FIRE ENGINE**

**engine driv-er** /- ' -/ *BrE* || **engineer** *AmE— n* someone who drives a railway engine

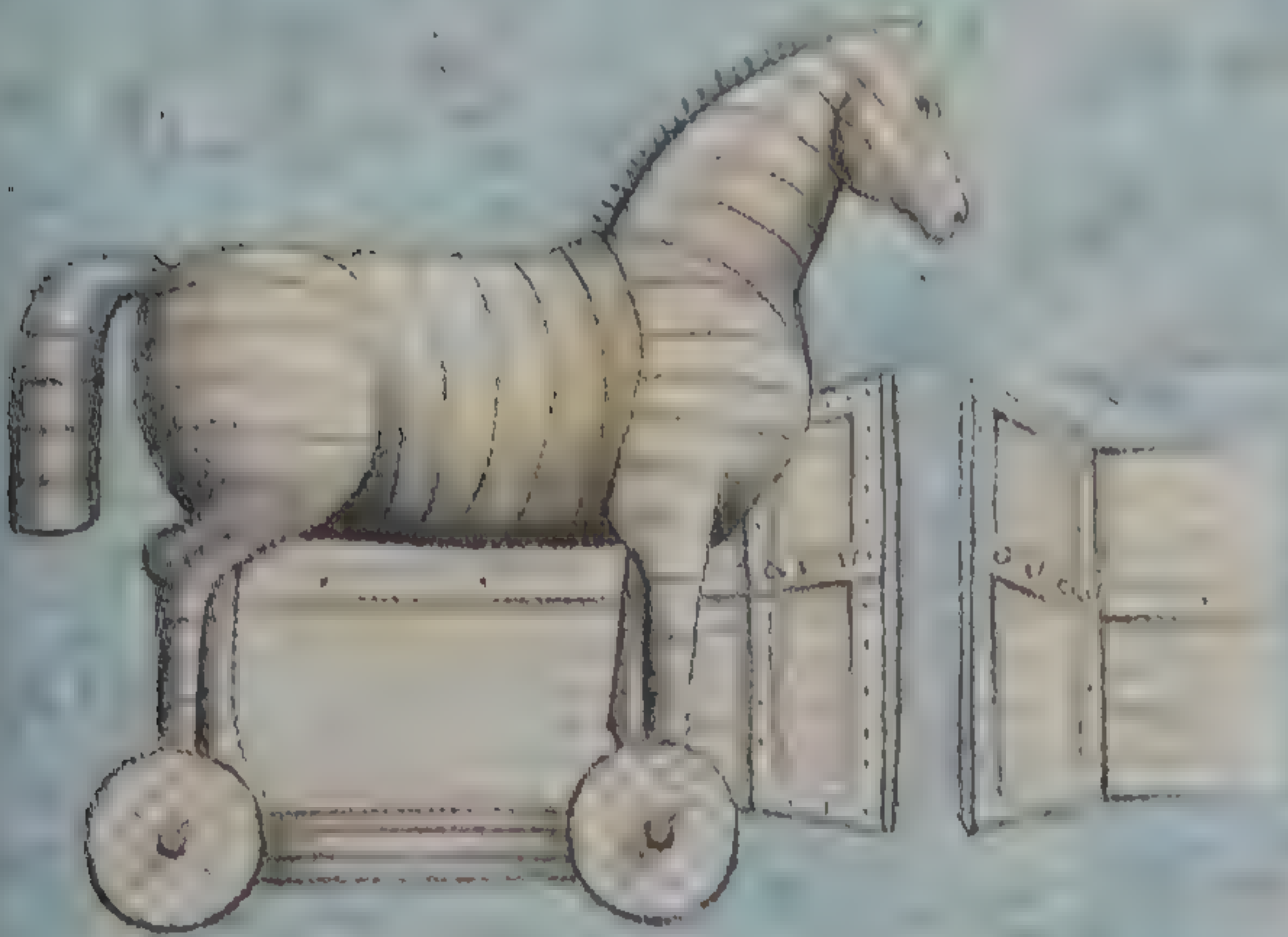


**Atlas**

Pictures of Atlas usually show him carrying the world on his shoulders.

**The Medusa**

The Medusa was a terrible monster with snakes instead of hair who was so ugly that people changed to stone when they looked at her. She was killed by Perseus who cut off her head.

**The Trojan Horse**

During the Trojan War the Greeks hid inside a big wooden horse to trick their enemies into letting them inside the city of Troy. The trick was successful and once the horse was inside the city gates the soldiers jumped out and caught the Trojans by surprise.

**Neptune**

Neptune was the ancient Roman god of the sea and is usually shown carrying a special kind of long fork called a trident.

**Eros**

Eros was the Greek god of love and is usually shown carrying a bow and arrow. He was believed to shoot people with his arrows to make them fall in love.

**Romulus and Remus**

According to legend, Romulus and Remus were twin brothers who were left by their parents to die until a wolf found them and looked after them. When they grew up they were supposed to have founded the city of Rome.



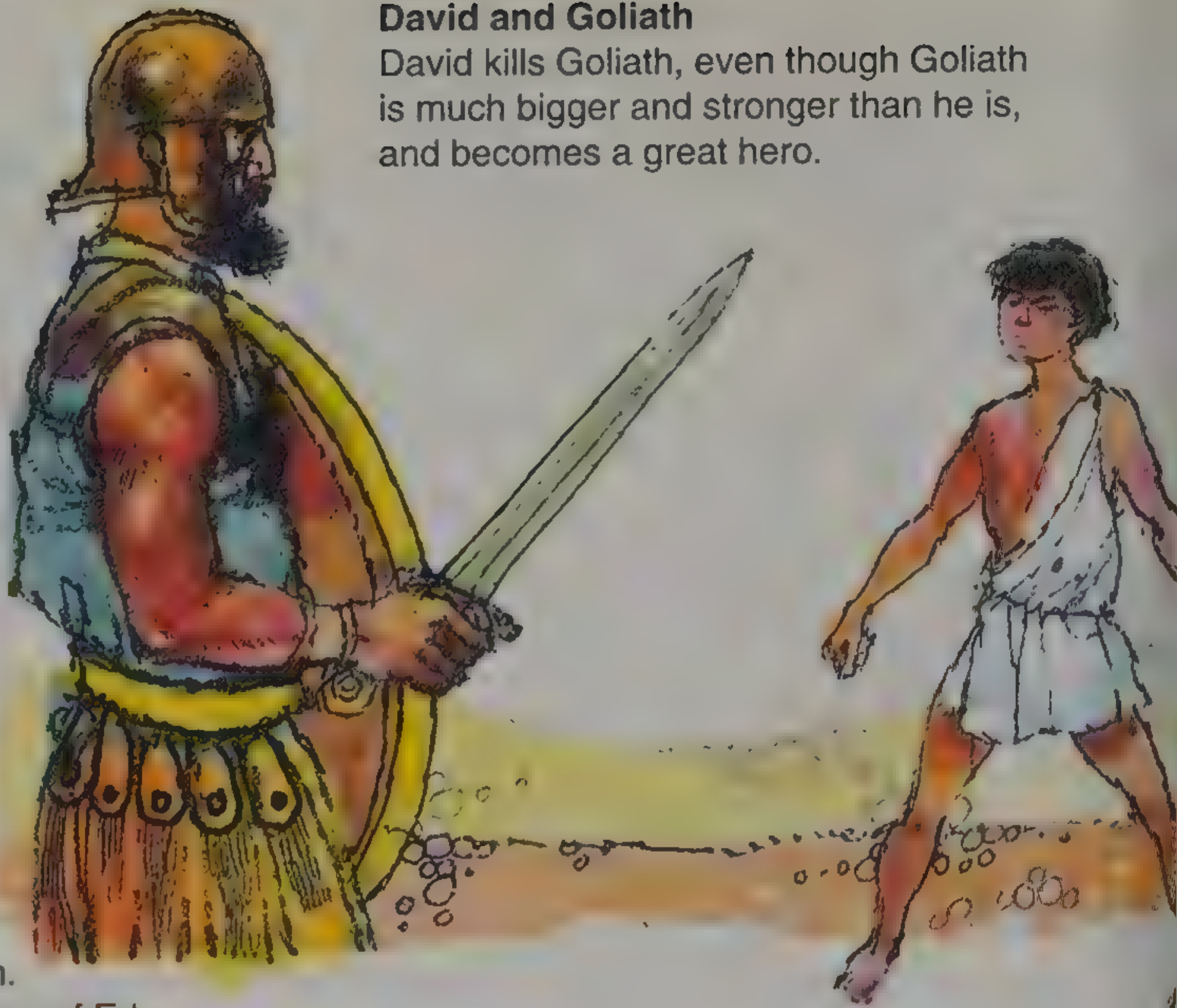
## Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden



God tells Adam and Eve that they must not eat apples from the Tree of Knowledge, but a serpent persuades Eve to take one and share it with Adam. As a punishment God makes them leave the Garden of Eden.

## David and Goliath

David kills Goliath, even though Goliath is much bigger and stronger than he is, and becomes a great hero.



## Moses and the Red Sea

God opens a way through the Red Sea so that Moses can lead the Israelites out of Egypt where they had been kept as slaves.



## Jesus walks on the water

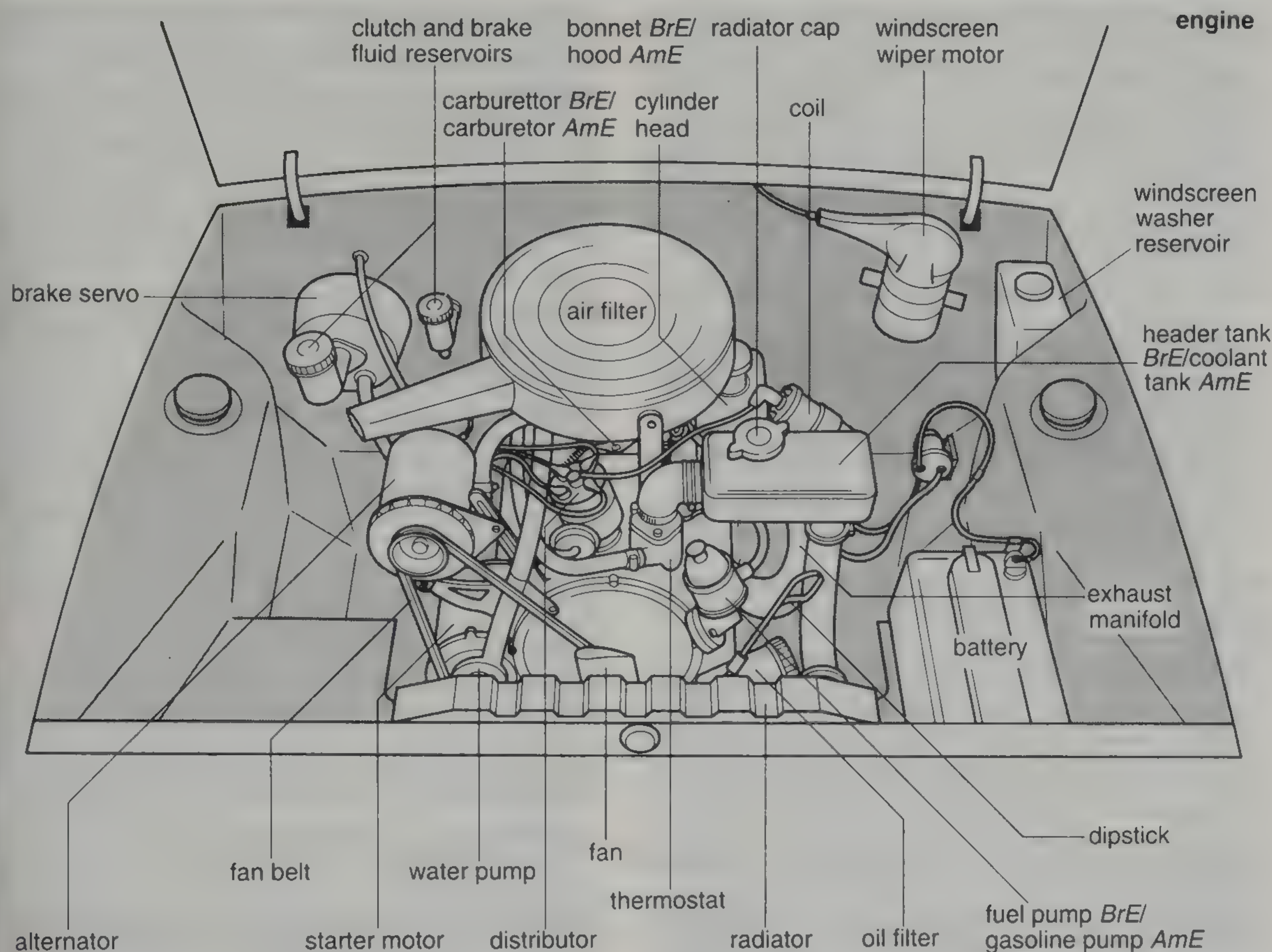
According to the Bible, Jesus did many things which other people could not do to show them that he was different from ordinary men.



## Judas

Judas is paid thirty pieces of silver by the Romans to betray Jesus. He takes them to where Jesus is and shows them which man is Jesus by kissing him.





**en-gi-neer**<sup>1</sup> /ˌendʒɪˈniə/ *n* 1 a person who is professionally trained to plan the making of machines, roads, bridges, electrical equipment, etc.: *an electrical/mechanical engineer* 2 a skilled person who controls an engine or engines, esp. on a ship: *the chief engineer* 3 AmE for ENGINE DRIVER

**engineer**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T] 1 to arrange or cause by clever secret planning; CONTRIVE: *He had powerful enemies who engineered his downfall.* 2 [often pass.] to plan and make as an engineer does: *This new jet engine is superbly engineered.*

**en-gi-neer-ing** /ˌendʒɪˈniəriŋ/ *n* [U] the science or profession of an ENGINEER<sup>1</sup> (1): *She studied engineering at university.* | *an engineering firm* —see also CIVIL ENGINEERING

**En-land** /ˈɪŋɡlənd/ 1 the largest country in Britain; capital London —compare BRITAIN, UNITED KINGDOM and see colour map on page 818 2 **England expects that every man will do his duty** *quote* a phrase used by Lord Nelson to his men just before the Battle of Trafalgar. 3 **England is a nation of shopkeepers** *quote* a phrase from a work by Napoleon Bonaparte 4 **If I should die, think only this of me: That there's some corner of a foreign field That is forever England** *quote* part of the poem *The Soldier* by Rupert Brooke which is associated with a very ROMANTIC image of England 5 **lie back and think of England** a phrase believed to have been used by Victorian teachers and mothers when they advised young women about what to do when their husbands had sex with them. The phrase is often used humorously now when something is happening to a person and they do not like it but have to accept it. 6 **There'll always be an England** the title and first line of a PATRIOTIC song 7 **this blessed plot, this earth, this realm, this England** *quote* a phrase from Shakespeare's play *Richard II* describing how beautiful England is

**En-lish**<sup>1</sup> /ˈɪŋɡlɪʃ/ *adj* 1 a belonging to England, its people, etc.: *an English village* | *English history* | *My father is English, but my mother is Scottish.* b *infml* belonging to Britain, its people, etc. 2 of or related to English as a language: *English grammar*

**English**<sup>2</sup> *n* 1 [U] the language of Britain, the US, Australia, etc.: *Do you speak English?* | *She's Greek, but her*

*English is excellent.* | *How do you say that in English?* 2 [U] English language and literature as a subject of study: *She read (=studied) English at Oxford.* 3 [the+P] a the people of England: *The English are famous for liking tea.* b *infml* the people of Britain.

**English break-fast** /ˌɪŋ. 'lɪ. 'bræk.fəst/ *n* a breakfast usu. consisting of cooked BACON and eggs followed by TOAST and MARMALADE, eaten in England. When CEREAL or fruit or fruit juice and/or toast and marmalade are offered as well as bacon and eggs in a hotel, the meal is sometimes advertised as a **full English breakfast**. Although it is thought of as a typical English meal, few English people have English breakfast every day. —compare CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

**English Cham-ber Or-ches-tra** /ˌɪŋ. 'lɪ. 'ɔr. 'tʃes.trə/ [the] a CHAMBER ORCHESTRA based in London

**English Chan-nel** /ˌɪŋ. 'lɪ. 'tʃæn.əl/ also **Channel** — [the] the piece of water between N France and S England. In order to reach the rest of Europe the British have always had to cross the Channel which makes them feel separate from the rest of Europe. With the opening of the CHANNEL TUNNEL (=a passage under the Channel), this may change. —see colour map on page 818

**English Her-i-tage** /ˌɪŋ. 'lɪ. 'hɪ. 'tæʒ/ a British government organization which preserves places, buildings, which are important in English history, and encourages people to visit them —compare NATIONAL TRUST

**English horn** /ˌɪŋ. 'lɪ. 'hɔrn/ *n* AmE for COR ANGLAIS

**En-lish-man** /ˈɪŋɡlɪʃmən/ **En-lish-wo-man** /-ˌwʊmən/ *fem.* — *n* -men /mən/ 1 a British citizen born in England or of English parent(s) 2 **an Englishman's home is his castle** BrE *saying* an English person's home is very important to them and they can do what they like there 3 **mad dogs and Englishmen go out in the midday sun** *quote* a phrase from a song by Noël Coward

**English Na-tion-al Bal-let** /ˌɪŋ. 'lɪ. 'næ. 'nəl. 'bæl.əl/ [the] an English BALLET company which performs CLASSICAL and modern ballet

**English Na-tion-al Op-er-a** /ˌɪŋ. 'lɪ. 'næ. 'nəl. 'ɒp.ə/ **ENO** [(the)] an English OPERA company which performs operas in English at the London Coliseum

**English Na-ture** /ˌɪŋ. 'lɪ. 'nætʃə/ a British government organization responsible for the care of wild animals and plants in



England. Until 1991 the Nature Conservancy Council was responsible for this.

**English Sheep-dog** /ɪˌˌ ˈˌ/ *n* AmE for OLD ENGLISH SHEEPDOG

**English-Speak-ing U-nion** /ɪˌˌ ˈˌ/ [*the*] an organization started in 1918 to advance the education of English-speaking people around the world. It arranges educational visits, courses, and meetings and supports English-language study to make international understanding easier.

the symbol for the English Tourist Board



**English Tour-ist Board** /ɪˌˌ ˈˌ ˌ/ [*the*] an organization which exists to encourage tourists to go on holiday in England

**Eng. Lit.** /ɪˌɪŋ ˈlɪt/ *abbrev. for* English Literature; the study of great works of literature written in English: *I've got an Eng. Lit. exam tomorrow.*

**en-grave** /ɪnˈɡreɪv/ *v* [T] 1 to cut (words, pictures, etc.) on (wood, stone, or metal): [+*obj+on*] *His memorial was engraved on the stone.* [+*obj+with*] *The stone was engraved with his memorial.* | (fig.) *The terrible scene was engraved on his memory.* 2 to prepare (a special plate of metal) in this way, for printing —see SPREAD (USAGE) —*graver n*

**en-grav-ing** /ɪnˈɡreɪvɪŋ/ *n* 1 [C] a picture printed from an engraved metal plate: *I bought an old engraving of London Bridge.* 2 [U] the art or work of an engraver

**en-gross** /ɪnˈɡrəʊs/ *v* [T (in) *usu. pass.*] to fill completely the time and attention of; ABSORB (2): *I was so engrossed in my work that I completely forgot the time.* | *an engrossing book*

**en-gulf** /ɪnˈɡʌlf/ *v* [T (in)] *esp. lit* (of the earth, the sea, etc.) to surround and swallow up: *The stormy sea engulfed the small boat.* | *The house was engulfed in flames.*

**en-hance** /ɪnˈhɑːns||ɪnˈhæns/ *v* [T] to increase in strength or amount: *Good secretarial skills should enhance your chances of getting a job.* | *Hopefully, the meeting will enhance the prospects of world peace.* | *computer-enhanced learning* (=learning in which the student is helped or guided by a computer as well as by a teacher) —*ment n* [C;U]

**e-nig-ma** /ɪˈnɪgmə/ *n* a person, thing, or event that is mysterious and very hard to understand: *No one could explain how the ship had suddenly disappeared — it was all a bit of an enigma.* —*~tic* /ɪˈnɪɡˈmætɪk/ *adj*: *an enigmatic person|smile* —*~tically* /kli/ *adv*

**en-join** /ɪnˈdʒɔɪn/ *v* [T] 1 [(on)] *fml* to order (someone to do something or something to be done): *He enjoined obedience on the soldiers.* [+*obj+to-v*] *He enjoined them to fight bravely for their country.* 2 [(from)] *esp. AmE* to forbid; PROHIBIT

**en-joy** /ɪnˈdʒɔɪ/ *v* [T] 1 to get pleasure from (things and experiences); like: *I enjoyed the film.* [+*v-ing*] *I enjoy going to the cinema.* 2 *fml* to possess or use (something good): *He has always enjoyed (=had) very good health.* 3 *enjoy oneself* to be happy; experience pleasure: *Did you enjoy yourself at the party?* —*~ment n* [C;U]: *I didn't get much enjoyment out of that book.*

▷ USAGE In British English **enjoy** is always followed by a noun or a pronoun or by a verb with *-ing*: “*Did you enjoy your holiday?*” “*Yes, I enjoyed it very much.*” | *He enjoyed himself on holiday.* | *He enjoys travelling by train.* Note that in American English the expression **Enjoy!** is sometimes used in informal speech with the meaning “enjoy yourself” or “have a nice time”.◁

**en-joy-a-ble** /ɪnˈdʒɔɪəbəl/ *adj* (of things and experiences) giving pleasure: *an enjoyable holiday* —opposite **unenjoyable** —*bly adv*

**en-large** /ɪnˈlɑːdʒ||-ɑːr-/ *v* [I;T] to (cause to) grow larger or wider: *This photograph probably won't enlarge well.* | *The medical tests showed that he was suffering from an enlarged liver.*

**enlarge on/upon sthg.** *phr v* [T] to add more length and detail to (a statement); ELABORATE: *She only gave us the bare facts, so we asked her to enlarge on them.*

**en-large-ment** /ɪnˈlɑːdʒmənt||-ɑːr-/ *n* 1 [C] a photograph that has been printed in a larger size than the original: *I'm sending mother an enlargement of the baby's photo.* 2 [U] the act of or result of enlarging

**en-light-en** /ɪnˈlaɪtn/ *v* [T] to cause to understand deeply and clearly, esp. by making free from TRADITIONAL or false beliefs: *Peter thought the world was flat until I enlightened him!* | *an enlightening experience*

**en-light-ened** /ɪnˈlaɪtənd/ *adj* *apprec* showing true and deep understanding; wise, esp. in being free of false beliefs: *enlightened opinions* | *The papers praised the judge's enlightened ruling.*

**en-light-en-ment** /ɪnˈlaɪtənmənt/ *n* [U] 1 the act of enlightening or state of being enlightened: *The tax laws are so complicated that only an expert can provide enlightenment.* 2 (in Buddhism and Hinduism) the state of freedom from desire and suffering, leading to union with the spirit of the universe

**Enlightenment** *n* [*the*] the period in the 18th century in Europe, when certain thinkers taught that science and the use of reason would improve the human condition

**en-list** /ɪnˈlɪst/ *v* 1 [I;T] to (cause to) join the armed forces: *He enlisted when he was 18.* | *We must enlist more men.* 2 [I (in)] *esp. BrE* to join a course of study, a political group, etc., esp. by putting one's name on a list: *I've enlisted in the Women's Studies course.* 3 [T] to obtain (help, sympathy, etc.): *They enlisted my support for the campaign to keep the hospital open.* —*~ment n* [C;U]

**enlisted man** /-ˌ ˈ ˌ, enlisted wom-an /-ˌ ˈ ˌ/ *fem.* — *n* AmE a person in the armed forces whose rank is below that of an officer

**en-liv-en** /ɪnˈlaɪvən/ *v* [T] to make more active, cheerful, or interesting: *This otherwise dreary book is enlivened by some very amusing illustrations.*

**en masse** /ɪˌɒn ˈmæs||ɑːn-/ *adv* Fr all together; in a mass or crowd: *The senior management resigned en masse.*

**en-mesh** /ɪnˈmeʃ/ *v* [T (in) *usu. pass.*] to catch (as if) in a net: *He was enmeshed in his own lies.*

**en-mi-ty** /ˈenmɪti/ *v* [C;U] *fml* the state of being an enemy or feeling hatred for someone; HOSTILITY

**En-nis-kil-len** /ɪˌenɪsˈkɪlən/ a town in Northern Ireland where 11 people were killed by an IRA bomb on REMEMBRANCE DAY in November 1987

**en-no-ble** /ɪˈnəʊbəl/ *v* [T] 1 to make better and more honourable: *Her character has been ennobled by all her sufferings.* 2 to make (someone) a nobleman —*~ment n* [U]

**en-nui** /ɒnˈwiː||ɑːn-/ *n* [U] Fr *fml* or *lit* tiredness and dissatisfaction caused by lack of interest and having nothing to do

**E-no** /ɪˈnəʊ/ also **Eno's tdmk** a powder that is mixed with water and drunk to cure stomach problems or to make the bowels empty more easily

**ENO** /ɪˌiː en ˈəʊ/ *abbrev. for* the ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA

**e-nor-mi-ty** /ɪˈnɔːməti||-ɑːr-/ *n* 1 [C;U] *fml* (an act of) great wickedness: *I don't think that even now he realizes the full enormity of his crime.* 2 [U] the quality of being very great, esp. in difficulty; IMMENSITY: *If I'd known the enormity of the task before I took it on, I wouldn't have attempted it.*

**e-nor-mous** /ɪˈnɔːməs||-ɑːr-/ *adj* extremely large: *an enormous house|meal|amount of money* —*~ness n* [U]

**e-nor-mous-ly** /ɪˈnɔːməsli||-ɑːr-/ *adv* extremely: *She's enormously rich.* | *It amused me enormously.*

**e-nough¹** /ɪˈnaʊf/ *determiner, pron* [(for)] as much or as many as may be necessary: *Have we got enough food?* | *Not enough is known about what really happened.* | *We have enough seats for everyone.* [+*to-v*] *She hasn't got enough to do.* | *Is there enough money|money enough (for us) to get a bottle of wine?* | *I've had enough of your rudeness!* (=too much of it) | *I've eaten more than enough.* (=too much) | *He said he would return the money, and I was fool enough|enough of a fool to believe him.* (=so foolish that I believed him) | “*I saw her coming out of his room with a guilty look on her face.*” “**Enough said.**”



(=you have made your meaning clear and need not say more)

▷ **USAGE** 1 **Enough** comes after adjectives: *Are you sure he's old enough?* 2 **Enough** usually comes before a plural or uncountable noun: **enough people/money**. It can be used after the noun but this is rather formal or literary: *Ah! If only there were money enough for us to travel there!* 3 **Sufficient** has the same meaning as **enough**, but is more formal, and cannot come after a noun. —see also **ADEQUATE** (**USAGE**)◁

**enough**<sup>2</sup> *adv* 1 to the necessary degree: *I didn't bring a big enough bag.* | (in polite requests) *Would you be kind enough to let us know the date of your arrival?* | *Is it warm enough for you?* [+to-v] *He didn't run fast enough to catch the train.* 2 to a certain degree; quite; rather: *It's difficult enough, but it could have been worse.* | *It was natural enough that she should have been annoyed.* (=her annoyance was understandable) 3 **curiously/oddly/strangely enough** although this is **CURIOUS/ODD/strange**: *He's lived in France for years, but strangely enough he can't speak a word of French.* —see also **fair enough** (**FAIR**<sup>1</sup>), **sure enough** (**SURE**<sup>2</sup>)

**en pas-sant** /,ɒn 'pæsɒn/ || ,ɑ:n pɑ:'sɑ:n/ *adv Fr fml* (used to introduce an additional remark, esp. about a different subject): *I would like to say en passant how useful I found your report.*

**en-quire** /ɪn'kwaɪə/ *v* [I;T] to **INQUIRE** —see **ASK** (**USAGE**)

**en-qui-ry** /ɪn'kwaɪəri/ || 'ɪŋkwaɪəri, ɪn'kwaɪəri, 'ɪŋkwɪəri/ *n* [C;U] **INQUIRY**

**en-rage** /ɪn'reɪdʒ/ *v* [T] to make very angry; **INFURIATE**: *Her behaviour enraged him.* | *I was enraged to find they had disobeyed my orders.*

**en-rap-ture** /ɪn'ræptʃə/ *v* [T] to fill with great joy or delight: *The beauty of her singing enraptured us.*

**en-rich** /ɪn'ritʃ/ *v* [T] 1 to make rich: *The discovery of oil will enrich the nation.* 2 to improve the quality of, as by adding something: *Music can enrich your whole life.* | *This nuclear reactor works with enriched uranium.* | *a fertilizer that enriches the soil* — ~ **ment** *n* [U]

**en-rol** *esp. BrE* || **enroll** *esp. AmE* /ɪn'rəʊl/ *v* -ll- [I;T (as, in)] to make (oneself or another person) officially a member of a group: *She decided to enrol in the history course at the local evening school.* — ~ **ment** *n* [C;U]

**Enrolled Nurse** /,ɒn 'rəʊld/ *n* **STATE ENROLLED NURSE**

**en route** /,ɒn 'ru:t/ || ,ɑ:n-/ *adv* [(for, from, to)] *Fr* on the way; travelling: *We were en route from London to New York.*

**en-sconce** /ɪn'skɒns/ || ɪn'skɑ:ns/ *v* [T (in)] *fml* or *humor* to place or seat (esp. oneself) comfortably in a safe place: *He ensconced himself/was ensconced in a big armchair in front of the fire.*

**en-sem-ble** /ɒn'sɒmbəl/ || ,ɑ:n'sɑ:m-/ *n* 1 a set of things that combine with or match each other to make a whole: *The coat, hat, and shoes make an attractive ensemble.* 2 [+sing./pl. v] a small group of musicians who regularly play together —compare **ORCHESTRA** 3 *tech* the quality of playing music in such a way that the notes are sounded properly together by all the players

**en-shrine** /ɪn'ʃraɪn/ *v* [T (in)] *fml* to put or keep (as if) in a **SHRINE** (=holy place): *These important rights are enshrined in the constitution.*

**en-shroud** /ɪn'ʃraʊd/ *v* [T (in) often pass.] *fml* to cover and hide: *Mist enshrouded the hills.* | *The hills were enshrouded in mist.*

**en-sign** /'ensɪn, -sən/ || 'ensən/ *n* 1 a flag on a ship which acts as a special sign, esp. to show what nation the ship belongs to 2 an officer of the lowest rank in the US navy — see **TABLE 3** 3 (in former times) an officer of the lowest rank in the British army 4 *esp. AmE* a small piece of metal or plastic with a picture or words on it, worn to show a person's rank

**en-slave** /ɪn'sleɪv/ *v* [T] to make into a slave: *The captives were enslaved by the victorious army.* — ~ **ment** *n* [U]

**en-snare** /ɪn'sneə/ *v* [T (in, into)] to catch (as if) in a trap: *He ensnared the old lady into giving him all her savings.*

**en-sue** /ɪn'sju:z/ || ɪn'su:/ *v* [I (from)] *fml* to happen afterwards, often as a result: *Serious fighting ensued.* | *Thousands were killed in the ensuing battle.*

**en suite**<sup>1</sup> /,ɒn 'swi:t/ || ,ɑ:n-/ *adj Fr* (of a room) leading off

another room; adjoining (**ADJOIN**). *En suite* is usu. used to describe a bathroom which is joined directly to a bedroom. It is considered to be a **LUXURY** to have an *en suite* bathroom and they are often mentioned in advertisements for hotels or houses for sale: *House for sale with four bedrooms, two with en suite bathroom.*

**en suite**<sup>2</sup> *n* 1 an *en suite* bathroom 2 a bedroom with a bathroom leading off it

**en-sure** *esp. BrE* || **insure** *esp. AmE* /ɪn'ʃʊə/ — *v* [T] to make (something) certain to happen: *a change in the law that will ensure fair treatment for people of all races* [+that] *If you want to ensure that you catch the plane, take a taxi.* [+obj(i)+obj(d)] *This medicine will ensure you (=make certain that you get) a good night's sleep.* —see **INSURE** (**USAGE**)

**en-tail** /ɪn'teɪl/ *v* [T] 1 to make (an event or action) necessary; **INVOLVE** (2): *Writing a history book entails a lot of work.* 2 [(on, upon) often pass.] *law* (esp. in former times) to arrange that (one's property) will become the property of one's son or daughter or another named person after one's death, and may not be sold to anyone else: *The castle and the land are entailed on the eldest son.*

**en-tan-gle** /ɪn'tæŋɡəl/ *v* [T (in, with)] to cause to become twisted or mixed with something else: *The bird entangled itself in the net.* | *The sailor's legs got entangled with the ropes.* | (fig.) *He got himself entangled in some dishonest business dealings.* —opposite **disentangle** — compare **ENTWINE**, **TANGLE**<sup>1</sup>

**en-tan-gle-ment** /ɪn'tæŋɡəlment/ *n* 1 [C;U] (an) act of entangling or becoming entangled: *He's had another of his entanglements with the law.* (=with the police) 2 [C often pl.] a fence made of **BARBED WIRE**, placed so as to make the advance of enemy forces difficult

**En-teb-be** /en'teɪbi/ a town in S Uganda. It has an important international airport where in 1976 Israeli soldiers managed to free 91 passengers who were on a plane which had been hijacked (**HIJACK**) (= taken control of by force).

**en-tente** /ɒn'tɒnt/ || ,ɑ:n'ta:nt/ *n Fr* a (formally declared) friendly relationship between two or more countries, which has less force than an **ALLIANCE**

**Entente Cor-di-ale** /ɒn,tɒnt kɔ:di'ɑ:l/ || ,ɑ:n,tɑ:nt kɔ:r-/ *n Fr* an agreement between two or more countries (from the name of an agreement between Britain and France about foreign affairs in 1904)

**en-ter** /'entə/ *v* 1 [I;T] *rather fml* to come or go in or into: *The thieves entered the building by the back door.* | *Knock before you enter.* | *Everybody stands up when the judge enters the court.* | *The talks have now entered their third week.* (=have already lasted more than two weeks) 2 [I (for);T] to declare one's intention of taking part (in): *Several of the world's finest runners have entered the race/entered for the race.* 3 [T (for, in)] to cause to take part: *She's entered her best two horses (in the race).* 4 [T] to become a member of (esp. a profession): *She entered politics/parliament at an early age.* 5 [T (in)] to cause to be included, in a store of information: *Is the word "yorks" entered in this dictionary?* | *To enter the data into the computer, you type it in then press the "Enter" key.* 6 [T (UP, in)] *fml* to write down (names, amounts of money, etc.) in a book: *You must enter the £5 you spent in the account book.* 7 [T] *fml* to make officially: *I have entered a complaint against you with the authorities.* | *The prisoner entered a plea of "not guilty".*

**enter into** sthg. *phr v* [T] 1 to allow oneself to share in or become part of: *He entered into the spirit of the game with great excitement.* 2 [no pass.] to have any important part in or influence on: *The money doesn't enter into it; it's the principle of the thing that I object to.* 3 *fml* to begin to take part in formally: *Before you enter into an agreement of this nature, you should read the contract carefully.*

**enter on/upon** sthg. *phr v* [T] *fml* to begin (esp. a job, a period of official duty, etc.): *The new teacher entered upon his duties in the autumn.*

**en-te-ri-tis** /,entə'reɪtɪs/ *n* [U] a painful infection of the bowels

**en-ter-prise** /'entəpraɪz/ || -ər-/ *n* 1 [C] a plan, course of action, etc., esp. one that is daring or difficult: *They have just embarked on their latest enterprise, which is to sail round the world in a very small boat.* 2 [U] willingness



to take risks and do things that are difficult, new, or daring: *I admire their enterprise in trying to start up a new business.* **3** [C] an organization, esp. a business firm: *This company is one of the largest enterprises of its kind.*

► **CULTURAL NOTE** This word is often connected with the period of CONSERVATIVE government beginning in 1979, and esp. with the political ideas of Margaret Thatcher, the aims of which were to encourage people to open their own businesses and to depend less on the state. — see also **FREE ENTERPRISE**, **PRIVATE ENTERPRISE** ◀

**enterprise al-low-ance** /'... -ə- / *n* an amount of money paid by the British government to specially chosen people who have started their own businesses after being **UNEMPLOYED**

**Enterprise Al-low-ance Scheme** /'... -'... - / *n* [the] a British government plan established to encourage the unemployed to start their own businesses, but which has now been replaced by the Training and Enterprise Councils (TECs)

**enterprise cul-ture** /'... -tʃə- / *n* a national way of life in which the idea of starting and running private businesses is thought important — see **ENTERPRISE** (3)

**enterprise e-con-o-my** /'... -'... - / *n* an economic environment which is favourable to the establishment and development of businesses

**enterprise so-ci-e-ty** /'... -'... - / *n* a society which encourages people to start businesses and to look after themselves rather than expect the state to provide services

**enterprise zone** /'... -zə- / *n* (in Britain) a poor area of the country or a city in which the government tries to encourage new businesses to start up by offering them financial advantages. The idea is to bring new life to areas whose typical industries have disappeared.

**en-ter-pris-ing** /'entəpraɪzɪŋ-ər- / *adj* *apprec* having or showing **ENTERPRISE** (2): *It's very enterprising of them to try and start up a business like that.* — *~ly adv*

**en-ter-tain** /'entə'teɪn-ər- / *v* **1** [T] to amuse and interest, esp. by a public performance; keep the attention of (people watching or listening): *The play failed to entertain its audience.* | *a very entertaining speech* **2** [I;T] to give a party (for); provide food and drink (for): *We're entertaining our neighbours this evening.* (=giving them a meal in our house) | *We don't do much entertaining.* **3** [T] *fml* to be ready and willing to think about or accept (an idea, doubt, suggestion, etc.); consider: *I wouldn't entertain such an outrageous idea.* — *~ingly adv*

**en-ter-tain-er** /'entə'teɪnə-ər- / *n* a person who entertains professionally, e.g. by singing or telling jokes: *a popular television entertainer*

**en-ter-tain-ment** /'entə'teɪnmənt-ər- / *n* **1** [U] the act or profession of entertaining: *This law applies to theatres, cinemas, and other places of public entertainment.* | *Senior staff get an allowance for the entertainment of foreign visitors.* **2** [C;U] something, esp. a public performance, that entertains: *It's not a very serious film, but it's good entertainment.* | *this week's entertainments*

**en-thral**, **enthrall** *BrE* || **enthrall**, **enthrall** *AmE* /'ɛnθrɔ:l- / *v* -ll- [T] to hold the complete attention and interest of (someone) as if by magic; **CAPTIVATE**: *The little boy was enthralled by the soldier's stories of battles.* | *an enthralling book* — *~ingly adv*

**en-throne** /'ɛnθrəʊn- / *v* [T] to mark the official beginning of the period of rule of (a king, queen, or **BISHOP**) by seating them on a **THRONE** (=official seat) — *~ment n* [C;U]

**en-thuse** /'ɛnθʊz- / *v* *infml* **1** [I (about, over)] to speak with or show enthusiasm: *She was enthusing about a film she'd just seen.* **2** [T] to cause to be enthusiastic: *a good teacher, who was always able to enthuse her students*

**en-thu-si-as-m** /'ɛnθʊziæzəm- / *n* [C;U (for, about)] a strong active feeling of interest and admiration: *She shows boundless enthusiasm for her work.* | *Among his many enthusiasms is a great fondness for Eastern music.* — *-astic* /'ɛnθʊzi'æstɪk- / || *in, θʊz- / adj*: *We explained our plans, and he was very enthusiastic (about them).* — *-astically* /kli- / *adv*

**en-thu-si-ast** /'ɛnθʊziæst- / *n* a person who is habitually full of enthusiasm, esp. for the stated thing: *a bicycling enthusiast*

**en-tice** /'ɛn'taɪs- / *v* [T+obj+adv/prep/to-v] to persuade (someone) to do something (esp. something bad), by offering something pleasant: *He enticed her away from her husband.* | *The beautiful weather enticed me into the garden.* | *an enticing smell of cooking* — *-ticingly adv* — *~ment n* [C;U]: *The enticements of the big city lured her away from her home and family.*

**en-tire** /'ɛn'taɪə- / *adj* [A] **1** with nothing left out; complete: *an entire set of Shakespeare's plays* | *She spent the entire day in bed.* **2** complete in degree; total: *I am in entire agreement with you.*

**en-tire-ly** /'ɛn'taɪəli-ər- / *adv* **1** completely; in every way: *I entirely agree with you.* | *We're not entirely happy about this.* (=we're rather dissatisfied) **2** only; not shared with others: *It's your fault entirely.*

**en-tire-ty** /'ɛn'taɪəɪtɪ- / *n* [U] *fml* completeness; wholeness: *He bought the collection in its entirety.* (=all of it)

**en-ti-tle** /'ɛn'taɪtl- / *v* [T often pass.] **1** [(to)] to give (someone) the right to do something or have something: *This ticket entitles you to a free seat at the concert.* [+obj+to-v] *Only members of the company are entitled to use the facilities.* | *I think I'm entitled to know why I wasn't given the job.* (=I should be told) — compare **EMPOWER**, **ENABLE** **2** [+obj+n] to give (a title) to (a book, play, etc.): *The book is entitled "Crime And Punishment".* — *~ment n* [U]: *You've used up all your holiday entitlement.* (=all the days you are allowed to take)

**en-ti-ty** /'entɪti- / *n* something that has a single separate and independent existence: *After the war Germany was divided; no longer one political entity.*

**en-tomb** /'ɛn'tu:m- / *v* [T often pass.] *fml* or *lit* to put (as if) in a **TOMB** (=large grave); bury — *~ment n* [C;U]

**en-to-mol-o-gy** /'entə'mɒlədʒi- / *n* [U] the scientific study of insects — compare **ETYMOLOGY** — *-gist* /'entə'mɒlədʒɪst- / *-gical* /'entəmə'lɒdʒɪkəl- / *adj*, *n*

**en-tou-rage** /'ɒntura:ʒ- / *n* [C+sing./pl. v] all the people who surround and follow an important person: *The president's entourage occupied six cars.*

**en-trails** /'entreɪlz- / *n* [P] **1** the inside parts of an animal, esp. the bowels **2** signs of what will happen in the future. In ancient times people used to kill an animal and examine its entrails as a way of knowing the future.

**en-train** /'ɛn'treɪn- / *v* [I;T] *tech* to get or put into a train: *The soldiers entrained/were entrained as soon as they had come off the ship.*

**en-trance**<sup>1</sup> /'entrəns- / *n* **1** [C (to)] a gate, door, or other opening by which people enter a place: *Excuse me, where is the entrance to the cinema/the park?* — opposite **exit** **2** [C] an act of entering: *She made an impressive entrance leading her two pet tigers.* | *The king doesn't make his entrance until the third scene of the play.* **3** [U] the right to enter; **ADMISSION**: *We were refused entrance because we weren't properly dressed.* | *a school entrance examination* (=which one must pass in order to become a pupil) | *How much is the entrance fee?*

► **USAGE** Compare **entrance** and **entry**. Both words can be used to mean the act of entering. However, **entrance** is used especially when talking about a ceremony or performance, or about the right to enter. Compare: *to make an entrance onto the stage* | *an entrance examination* | *Britain's entry into the EEC* | "No entry" (road sign). ◀

**en-trance**<sup>2</sup> /'ɛn'tra:ns- / *v* [T usu. pass.] *apprec* to fill with great wonder and delight: *The children watched entranced as the circus animals performed.*

**en-trant** /'entrənt- / *n* [(to)] a person who enters a profession or a race or competition: *When did they start accepting women entrants to the civil service?* | *Entrants should send their competition forms in by the end of the month.*

**en-trap** /'ɛn'træp- / *v* -pp- [T (into) often pass.] *fml* to catch as if in a trap; deceive or trick (into): *He was entrapped into making a confession by the clever questioning of the police.* — *~ment n* [U]

**en-treat** /'ɛn'tri:t- / *v* [T (for)] *fml* to beg or ask without pride very seriously; **IMPLORE**: *She entreated us for our help.* [+obj+to-v] *She entreated us to help her.* — *~ingly adv*

**en-trea-ty** /'ɛn'tri:ti- / *n* [C;U] *fml* (an example of) entreating: *All our entreaties were in vain, and he was shot at dawn.*

**en-tre-côte** /'ɒntrəkəʊt- / *n* *Fr* a high-quality cut of **BEEF STEAK** (= meat from cattle)



**en-trée** /'ɒntreɪ||'ɑ:n-/ *n* **Fr** 1 [C;U (into)] the right or freedom to enter or join: *His wealth gave him an/the entrée into upper-class society.* 2 [C] **a esp. BrE** a small meat dish, served after the fish and before the main dish in a formal dinner **b esp. AmE** the main dish of a meal

**en-trench**, **intrench** /ɪn'trentʃ/ *v* [T+obj+adv/prep] to establish (oneself) firmly in a particular place or position, so that one cannot easily be moved: *He entrenched himself behind his newspaper and refused to speak to her.* | *He's completely entrenched in his political views.* — **ment** *n* [U]

**en-trenched** /ɪn'trentʃt/ *adj* 1 *often derog* (of rights, customs, beliefs, etc.) firmly established, often in a way that is unreasonable: *You can't shift her from her entrenched beliefs.* 2 (of a place that is being defended) protected by TRENCHES (=long deep ditches)

**en-tre nous** /,ɒntre 'nu:z||,ɑ:n-/ *adv* **Fr** between ourselves; in secret and not to be mentioned to anyone else: *I've heard — and this is strictly entre nous — that she's been promised his job when he leaves.*

**en-tre-pre-neur** /,ɒntrepre'nɜ:z||,ɑ:n-/ *n* a person who starts a company or arranges for a piece of work to be done, and takes business risks in the hope of making a profit — **ial** *adj*: *entrepreneurial skills*

**en-tropy** /'entrəpi/ *n* [U] *tech* a measure of the degree of disorder in a system, which takes into account the fact that disorder naturally increases with the passage of time **entropic** /en'trəpɪk, -'trɒ-||-'trəʊ-, -'tra:z-/ *adj*

**en-trust**, **intrust** /ɪn'trast/ *v* [T] to give (someone) (something) to be responsible for: [+obj+with] *I entrusted you with the care of the child.* [+obj+to] *I entrusted the child to your care.*

**en-try** /'entri/ *n* 1 [C;U (into)] the act of coming or going in; ENTRANCE<sup>1</sup> (2): *Britain's entry into the war was not long delayed.* | *He was charged with trying to gain illegal entry into the building.* | *You mustn't drive up a street with a No Entry sign.* 2 [C] *esp. AmE* a door, gate, or passage by which one enters a place 3 [C;U] a piece of information that is written or included in a list, a book, etc.: *She made an entry in her diary to remind herself of the date.* | *The next entry in this dictionary is the word "entryism".* 4 [C] a person or thing taking part in a race or competition: *She's going to judge the entries in the children's painting competition.* | *Send in your entry forms before January 16th.* — see ENTRANCE<sup>1</sup> (USAGE)

**en-try-is-m** /'entri-ɪzəm/ *n* [U] *usu. derog* the practice of joining a political party in order to change its ideas and plans from inside

**en-try-phone** /'entrɪfəʊn/ *n* a telephone outside the door of a block of flats or offices which people use to talk to someone inside the building and to ask them to open the door and let them come in

**en-try-way** /'entriweɪ/ *n* **AmE** a passage by which one enters a place

**en-twine** /ɪn'twain/ *v* [T (TOGETHER, in, round) *often pass.*] to twist together, round, or in: *They walked along with their fingers entwined (together).* | *The plant had entwined itself round the branches of the tree.* — compare ENTANGLE

**E num-ber** /'i: nʌmbə/ *n* a number, with the letter E in front of it, used on food containers in Britain to name particular chemicals known as FOOD ADDITIVES that are in the food. In the US such substances are shown by their chemical names.: *For today's healthy lifestyle there's no more natural drink than tea. No artificial flavours, colours or E numbers.*

**e-nu-me-rate** /ɪ'nju:məreɪt||ɪ'nuz-/ *v* [T] *fml* to name (things on a list) one by one: *He enumerated the reasons for his decision.* — **ration** /ɪ,nju:mə'reɪʃən||ɪ,nuz-/ *n* [C;U]

**e-nun-ci-ate** /ɪ'nʌnsi'eɪt/ *v* 1 [I;T] to pronounce (words), esp. carefully and clearly; ARTICULATE: *An actor must learn to enunciate (his words) clearly.* 2 [T] *fml* to make a clear and reasoned statement about: *This theory was first enunciated by Von Kramm as long ago as 1860.* — **ation** /ɪ,nʌnsi'eɪʃən/ *n* [U]

**en-vel-op** /ɪn'veləp/ *v* [T (in)] to wrap up or cover completely: *The building was soon enveloped in flames.* | *mountains enveloped in mist* — **ment** *n* [U]

**en-ve-lope** /'envələʊp/ *n* 1 a flat paper container for a letter 2 [(of)] *fml or lit* anything that covers or surrounds: *an envelope of mist*

**en-vi-a-ble** /'enviəbəl/ *adj* 1 (of a quality, possession, etc.) very desirable: *The company has an enviable reputation for reliability.* | *It's not an enviable task, trying to get the two sides to reach an agreement.* — opposite **unenviable** 2 (of a person) making one feel ENVY — **bly** *adv*

**en-vi-ous** /'enviəs/ *adj* [(of)] feeling or showing ENVY: *I'm very envious of your new job.* (=I wish I had a job like that.) — see JEALOUS (USAGE) — **ly** *adv* — **ness** *n* [U]

**en-vi-ron-ment** /ɪn'vaɪərənmənt/ *n* 1 [the+S] the natural conditions, such as air, water, and land, in which people, animals, and plants live: *new laws to prevent the pollution of the environment* — see also ECOLOGY 2 [C] the physical and social conditions in which people live, esp. as they influence their feelings and development: *Children need a happy home environment.* | *a well-planned modern factory that offers a pleasant working environment* — compare ENVIRONS, SURROUNDINGS — **al** /ɪn,vaɪərən'mentl-/ *adj*: *The environmental effect of this new factory could be disastrous.* — **ally** *adv*

**Environmental Health Of-fi-cer** /,..... 'ɒ. ,.../ (*abbrev. EHO*) *n* a local government worker who works in the Environmental Health Service

**Environmental Health Ser-vi-ce** /,..... 'ɒ. ,.../ [*the*] a service which is provided by British local authorities (LOCAL AUTHORITY) to prevent the spread of illnesses and to provide services which keep the environment clean

**en-vi-ron-men-tal-ist** /ɪn,vaɪərən'mentəl-ɪst/ *n* a person who tries to prevent the ENVIRONMENT (2) from being spoilt — **ism** *n* [U]

**Environmental Pro-tec-tion A-gen-cy** /,..... 'ɒ. ,.../ (*abbrev. EPA*) [*the*] an American government organization which works against POLLUTION

**environment friend-ly** /,..... 'ɒ. ,.../ *also environmentally friend-ly* /,..... 'ɒ. ,.../ — *n* not harmful to the ENVIRONMENT (2)

► **CULTURAL NOTE** A recent increased interest in and understanding of the environment has resulted in a demand for products which do not harm it and which are then advertised as environment friendly. ◀

**environment sec-re-ta-ry** /,..... 'ɒ. ,.../ *n* a British governmental position established in the 1960s to control matters related to the environment

**en-vi-rons** /'envɪrənz, ɪn'vaɪərənz||ɪn'vaɪərən/ *n* [P (of)] *fml* the area surrounding a town: *Oxford and its environs are worth a visit.* — compare ENVIRONMENT

**en-vis-age** /ɪn'vɪzɪdʒ/ *also en-vi-sion* **AmE** /ɪn'vɪzən/ — *v* [T] to see in the mind as a future possibility; FORESEE: *It should be quite simple; I don't envisage any difficulty.* [+v-ing|that] *When do you envisage being able|that you will be able to pay me back?*

**en-voy** /'envɔɪ/ *n* a person who is sent as a representative, esp. by one government to do business with another government

**en-vy** /'envi/ *n* [U (at, of, towards)] the feeling you have towards someone when you wish that you had their qualities or possessions: *They were full of envy|green with envy when they saw my new car.* | *Their beautiful garden is the envy of all the neighbours.* (=they all wish they had one like it) — compare JEALOUSY; see JEALOUS (USAGE), SEVEN DEADLY SINS

**envy**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T] to feel envy towards (someone) because of (something): *How I envy you; I wish I could make my hair curl like that.* | *I envy your ability to work so fast.* [+obj(i)+obj(d)] *I don't envy you your journey in this bad weather.*

**en-zyme** /'enzaim/ *n* a CATALYST (=a chemical substance) produced by certain living cells, which can cause chemical change in plants or animals or can make these changes happen more quickly, without being changed itself

**e-on** /'i:ən/ *n* AEON

**E111** /,i: trebəl 'wʌn/ *n* a European Community form which a person from one EC country fills in in order to obtain health care when they travel in other EC countries

**E-os** /'i:ɒs||-ɑ:z/ see AURORA

**EPA** /,i: pɪz 'eɪ/ [*the*] *abbrev. for*: ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY



**ep·au·let**, -lette /ˌepəˈlet/ *n* a decorative part on the shoulder of a uniform

**Ep-cot Cen-ter** /ˈepkɒt, sentəˈr/ -kərt-/ [*the*] the Experimental Prototype Community of Tomorrow Center; a part of Walt Disney World in Orlando, Florida in the US, where visitors can see some of the machines and equipment which may be used in the future

**é·pée** /ˈepei/ *n* a sharp-pointed stiff narrow sword, with a bowl-shaped guard for the hand, used in FENCING — compare FOIL<sup>3</sup>, SABRE (2)

**e·phem·e·ral** /ˌfemərəl/ *adj* lasting only a short time; TRANSITORY: *His success as a singer was ephemeral.* | *ephemeral fashions* — **rally** *adv*

**ep·ic**<sup>1</sup> /ˈepɪk/ *n* 1 a long poem telling the story of the deeds of gods and great men and women, or the early history of a nation: *“The Odyssey” is an epic of ancient Greece.* 2 a book, film, etc. (usu. a long one), that has some of the qualities of an epic: *a Hollywood epic about the Roman Empire*

**epic**<sup>2</sup> *adj* usu. *apprec* 1 (of stories, events, etc.) full of brave action and excitement, like an epic: *an account of their epic journey across the desert* 2 often humor unusually great: *To celebrate the victory, a banquet of epic proportions was held.*

**ep·i·cen·tre** *BrE* || -**ter** *AmE* /ˈepɪ, sentəˈr/ *n* *tech* the place on the Earth's surface which is just above the point inside the Earth where an EARTHQUAKE begins

**ep·i·cure** /ˈepɪkjʊə/ *n* a person who takes great interest in the pleasures of food and drink; GOURMET

**ep·i·cu·re·an** /ˌepɪkjʊˈri:ən/ *adj, n* (being or typical of) a person who particularly enjoys the more delicate pleasures of the senses, esp. eating and drinking

**Epicurean** *n, adj* (a person) believing in or concerned with the teaching which states that pleasure is good and suffering is bad and should be avoided (It is named after the Greek thinker Epicurus (341–270 BC) who first developed this idea.) — compare STOIC, HEDONISM

**ep·i·dem·ic** /ˌepɪˈdemɪk/ *n* a large number of cases of the same infectious disease during a single period of time: *There has been an epidemic of cholera/a cholera epidemic in the city.* | (fig.) *There has recently been an epidemic of car stealing.* | *Violence is reaching epidemic levels in the city.* — compare ENDEMIC

**ep·i·der·mis** /ˌepɪˈdɜ:mɪs/ -zɪr-/ *n* [C;U] *med* the outside part of the skin

**ep·i·dur·al** /ˌepɪˈdju:ərəl/ -ˈdu:z-/ *n* *med* the putting of a substance into a patient's lower back with a needle to free them from pain, done e.g. to a woman who is giving birth

**ep·i·glot·tis** /ˌepɪˈglɒtɪs/ -ˈglɑ:z-/ *n* *med* a little shield at the back of the tongue, which closes to prevent food or drink from entering the lungs — see picture at RESPIRATORY

**ep·i·gram** /ˈepɪgræm/ *n* a short clever amusing saying or poem: *My favourite epigram is “Everything I like is either illegal, immoral, or fattening”.*

**ep·i·gram·mat·ic** /ˌepɪgrəˈmætɪk/ *adj* expressed in a short clever amusing way: *her epigrammatic wit* — **ally** [*kli*] *adv*

**ep·i·lep·sy** /ˈepɪlepsi/ *n* [U] an illness of the brain which causes sudden attacks of uncontrolled violent movement and loss of consciousness

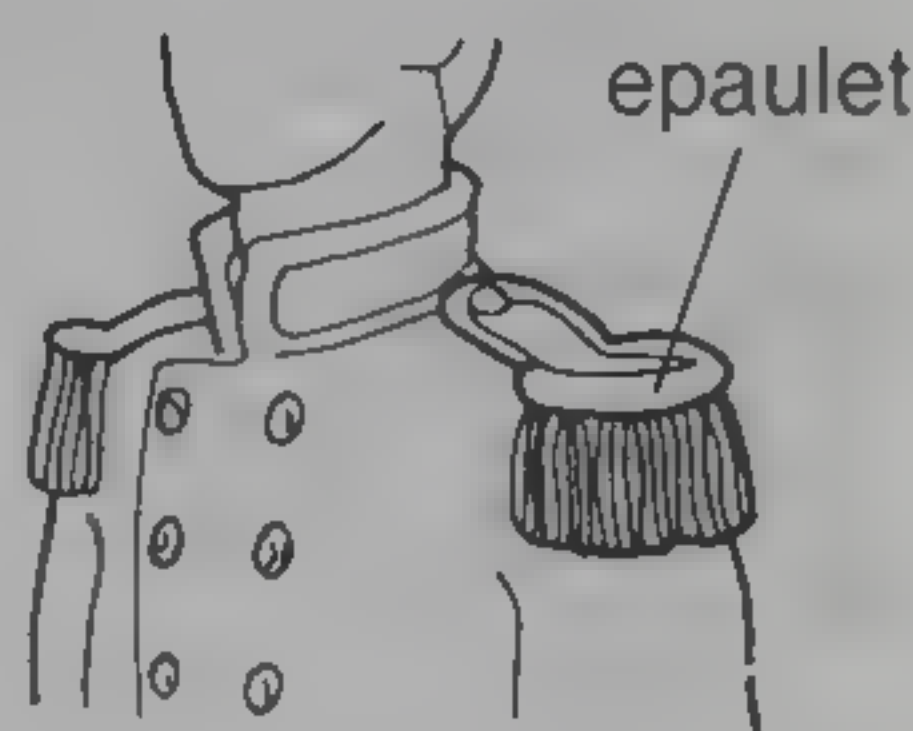
**ep·i·lep·tic** /ˌepɪˈleptɪk/ *adj, n* (of, for, or being) a person who suffers from epilepsy: *He had an epileptic fit.* | *an epileptic child*

**ep·i·logue** || also -**log** *AmE* /ˈepɪlɒg/ -lɒ:g, -lɑ:g/ *n* 1 the last part of a piece of literature which finishes it off, esp. a speech made by one of the actors at the end of a play — compare PROLOGUE (1) 2 a short religious broadcast at the end of a day's broadcasting

**E·piph·a·ny** /ˌpɪfəni/ *n* [*the*] *Feast of the Epiphany*, a Christian holy day on January 6th, in memory of the coming of the three kings from the East to see the baby Jesus

**e·pis·co·pa·cy** /ˌpɪskəpəsi/ also **e·pis·co·pate** /ˌpɪskəpət/ -*n* [U] *fml* 1 the rank or period of office of a BISHOP (=a

epaulet



high official and priest of the Christian church) 2 [+sing./pl. v] all the BISHOPS

**e·pis·co·pal** /ˌpɪskəpəl/ *adj* 1 *fml* of a BISHOP 2 (often *cap.*) (of a church) governed by BISHOPS (esp. in the phrase *the Episcopal Church*)

**Episcopal Church** /ˌɪpɪˈskəpəl/ also **Protestant Episcopal Church** — [*the*] a church in the US which developed from the Anglican Church (Church of England) and was established after the AMERICAN REVOLUTION. Since 1976 both men and women in the Episcopal Church have been allowed to become priests.

**e·pis·co·pa·li·an** /ˌpɪskəˈpeɪliən/ *n, adj* (often *cap.*) (a member) of an episcopal church

**ep·i·sode** /ˈepɪsəʊd/ *n* 1 a particular event which is separate, but also forms part of a larger whole: *It was one of the funniest episodes in my life.* 2 a single broadcast that is one of a continuous set telling a story: *In the final episode we will find out who did the murder.*

**ep·i·sod·ic** /ˌepɪˈsɒdɪk/ -ˈsɑ:z-/ *adj* (of a story, play, etc.) made up of separate and usu. loosely connected parts: *The book is written in an episodic format.* — **ally** [*kli*] *adv*

**e·pis·tle** /ˌpɪsəl/ *n* *fml* or *humor* a letter, esp. a long and important one

**Epistle** *n* [often *pl.*] any of the letters written by the first followers of Christ, in the Bible: *St Paul's Epistle to the Romans*

**e·pis·to·la·ry** /ˌpɪstələri/ -tələri/ *adj* *fml* 1 of letters or the writing of letters 2 carried on by, or in the form of, letters

**ep·i·taph** /ˈepɪtɑ:f/ -tæf/ *n* a short statement about a dead person, often written on a stone above their grave

**ep·i·thet** /ˈepɪθet/ *n* *fml* an adjective or descriptive phrase, esp. of praise or blame, used about a person: *The king was known as Alfred the Great, but in my opinion the epithet (=“Great”) was undeserved.*

**e·pit·o·me** /ˌpɪtəmi/ *n* [*the*+S+of] a thing or person that shows the stated quality or set of qualities to a very great degree; typical example: *His behaviour was the epitome of bad manners.*

**e·pit·o·mize** also -**mise** *BrE* /ˌpɪtəmaɪz/ *v* [T] to be typical of; be an epitome of: *This strike epitomizes what is wrong with industrial relations in this country.*

**e plu·ri·bus u·num** /eɪ ˌplʊərɪbəs ˈu:znəm/ *Lat* one out of many, meaning a national government consisting of many states. This phrase appears on several American coins and on the Great Seal of the United States.

**EPNS** /ˌi: pɪz en ˈes/ *n, adj* electro-plated nickel silver; in Britain, a mark pressed on to goods such as knives, forks, and teapots, that are covered in a thin coat of silver rather than made of solid silver

**e·poch** /ˈi: pɒk/ ˈepək/ *n* a long period of time in the history of the Earth or of human society, esp. as marked by events or developments of a particular kind: *The first flight into space marked a new epoch in the history of mankind.*

**epoch·mak·ing** /ˈɪpəˌmæɪŋ/ *adj* (esp. of an event) very important, esp. because it changes the way people live: *The steam-engine was an epoch-making invention.*

**e·pon·y·mous** /ˌpɒnɪməs/ ˌɪˈpɑ:z-/ *adj* *tech* (of a character in literature) being the character after whom the stated book, play, etc., is named: *Hamlet is the eponymous hero of Shakespeare's play “Hamlet”.*

**e·pox·y res·in** /ˌɪpɒksi ˈrezɪn/ ˌɪˈpɑ:z-/ *n* [U] an industrially-made RESIN that is used esp. as a glue

**Ep·ping For·est** /ˌepɪŋ ˈfɒrɪst/ -ˈfɔ:z-, -ˈfɑ:z-/ an area of woodland open to the public, N of London. It was formerly a royal hunting ground.

**Ep·som** /ˈepsəm/ a town in SE England where there is a famous RACECOURSE (=where horses race). Two of the best-known races run there are the DERBY and the OAKS.

**Epsom salts** /ˌɪpˌsɒm ˈsɔ:ltz/ *n* [U;P] a bitter colourless or white powder, used medically to empty the bowels

**Ep·stein-Barr vi·rus** /ˌepstain ˈbaɪ ˌvaɪərəs/ ˌɪˈbaɪr-/ also *abbrev.* EBV — [*the*] a VIRUS (=something which causes infectious illnesses in the body) which causes GLANDULAR FEVER

**eq·ua·ble** /ˈekwəbəl/ *adj* 1 (of a person) of even calm temper; not easily annoyed: *I like working with Mary because*



she has such an equable nature. **2** (of temperature) without great changes; even and regular: *Britain has quite an equable climate; it seldom gets too hot or too cold.* —compare **EQUITABLE** —**bly** *adv* —**bility** /,ekwə'bilɪti/ *n* [U]

**e·qual** /'i:kwəl/ *adj* **1** [(in, to, with)] (of two or more) the same in size, number, value, rank, etc.: *Cut the cake into six equal pieces.* | *Women demand equal pay for equal work.* (=equal to men) | *The two squares are equal in size; this one is equal to that.* | *The diplomats chose a neutral country so that they could meet on equal terms.* (=with neither side having an advantage) **2** [F+to] (of a person) having enough strength, ability, etc. (for): *Bill is quite equal to (the task of) running the office.* | *She had to give a speech to 3000 people, but she proved quite equal to the situation/opportunity.* (=able to deal with whatever happened) —opposite **unequal** —see also **EQUALLY** **3** all men are created equal *quote* from the American DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE **4** all animals are equal, but some are more equal than others *quote* from *Animal Farm* by George Orwell, meaning that, although a TOTALITARIAN SOCIALIST state may say that all people are equal, in practice its leaders have a better life than other people

**equal** <sup>2</sup> *n* a person who is equal (to someone else or to oneself): *We should all be equals in the eyes of the law.* | *a boss who treats her staff as equals* —see also **FIRST AMONG EQUALS** (**FIRST**<sup>2</sup>)

**equal** <sup>3</sup> *v* -ll- *BrE* || -l- *AmE* [not in progressive forms] **1** [L] (of a size or number) to be the same as: "*x=y*" means that *x* equals *y*. | *The year's sales figures up until October equal the figures for the whole of last year.* **2** [T (in, as)] to reach the same standard as: *None of us can equal her grace as a dancer.* | *Thompson today equalled the world record for the 400 metres.* (=ran as fast as the fastest ever time) | *Their ignorance is only equalled by their stupidity.*

**Equal Employment Opportunity Commission** /,i... .. also **EEOC**— [the] an American government office that encourages employers to make jobs available to people without consideration of their race, religion, sex, age, etc.

**e·qual·i·ty** /'i:kwəlɪti/ *n* [U] the state of being equal: *They are fighting for the equality of women.* (=for women to be equal with men) | *racial equality* | *equality of opportunity*

**e·qual·ize** also -ise *BrE* /'i:kwəlaɪz/ *v* **1** [T] to make equal in size or numbers: *A small adjustment will equalize the temperature in the two rooms.* **2** [T] to spread out evenly all through: *Our party's policy is to try to equalize the tax burden.* **3** [I] esp. *BrE* to reach the same total of points, etc. as one's opponents in sport: *England equalized a few minutes before the end of the match.* —**ization** /,i:kwəlaɪ'zeɪʃən/ *n* [U]

**e·qual·iz·er** also -iser *BrE* /'i:kwəlaɪzə/ *n* **1** esp. *BrE* a GOAL, point, etc. that makes one's total equal to that of one's opponents in sport: *England scored the equalizer a few minutes before the end of the match.* **2** something which makes things equal or balanced

**equal·ly** /'i:kwəli/ *adv* **1** as (much); to an equal degree: *They're both equally fit.* | *They can both run equally fast.* **2** in equal shares: *They shared the work equally between them.* **3** (comparing two ideas) at the same time and in spite of that: *We must help people to find houses outside the city, but equally, we must remember that some city people want to remain where they are.*

**equal opportunity** /,i... .. *n* [P] the same chances of employment, level of pay, and other advantages to everyone, regardless of race, colour, or sex: *We believe in equal opportunities.* | *The council is an Equal Opportunities Employer.*

**Equal Opportunities Commission** /,i... .. also **EOC**— [the] a British government body established in 1975 to make sure that men and women have the same chances in education and employment, and that they are treated fairly and equally by their teachers, employers, etc.

**Equal Pay Act** /,i... .. [the] a law in Britain which says that men and women should get equal pay for doing equal work, and should have the same conditions of employment

► **CULTURAL NOTE** The law provides for equal pay for people doing the same or similar work and for 'work of equal value' but this is difficult to prove and women's pay is still lower on average. ◀

**equal rights** /,i... .. *n* **EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES**

**Equal Rights Amendment** /,i... .. —see **ERA**<sup>1</sup>

**eq·ua·nim·i·ty** /,i:kwə'nɪmɪti, ,ekwə-/ *n* [U] *fml* calmness of mind and temper, esp in difficult situations: *He received the bad news with surprising equanimity.*

**e·quate** /'i:kweɪt/ *v* [T (with)] to consider or make equal: *You can't equate passing examinations and being intelligent|with being intelligent.*

**equation**

$$x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$

**e·qua·tion** /'i:kweɪʒən/ *n* **1** [C] a statement that two quantities are equal: *In the equation 2x+1=7, what is x?* | (fig.) *Most people believe the factory would provide more jobs but the other side of the equation is the pollution it would cause.* —compare **FORMULA** **2** [S;U] *fml* the state of being equal or equally balanced: *There is an equation between unemployment and rising crime levels.*

**e·qua·tor** /'i:kweɪtə/ *n* [the+S] (often *cap.*) an imaginary line drawn round the world halfway between its most northern and southern points (**POLES**): *The nearer you get to the equator, the hotter it is.* —see picture at **GLOBE**

**eq·ua·to·ri·al** /,ekwə'tɔ:riəl/ *adj* **1** of or near the equator: *the equatorial rain forest* **2** very hot: *an equatorial climate*

**Equatorial Guinea** /,i... .. a country in W central Africa consisting of a MAINLAND part and several islands; population 341,000 (1989); capital Malabo

**e·quer·ry** /'i:kweri, 'ekwəri/ *n* a male official in a royal court, who goes about with and serves the king or a member of the royal family

**e·ques·tri·an** /'i:kwestriən/ *adj* of or including the riding of horses: *I always enjoy the equestrian events at the Olympic Games.*

**equi-** see **WORD FORMATION**

**e·qui·dis·tant** /,i:kwɪ'dɪstənt/ *adj* [F (from)] equally distant: *Rome is about equidistant from Cairo and Oslo.* | *Paris, Bordeaux, and Lyons are roughly equidistant.* (=the same distance from each other)

**e·qui·lat·e·ral** /,i:kwɪ'lætərəl/ *adj* (of a TRIANGLE) having all three sides equal —compare **ISOSCELES**, **SCALENE** and see picture at **TRIANGLE**

**e·qui·lib·ri·um** /,i:kwɪ'libriəm/ *n* [S;U] **1** a state of balance between opposing forces, weights, influences, etc.: *Certain ear diseases can affect one's equilibrium.* | *We must try to keep the opposing economic forces in equilibrium.* **2** balance of the mind, emotions, etc.; **EQUANIMITY**

**equ·ine** /'ekwaɪn, 'i:z-/ *adj* of or like horses: *a long, equine face*

**eq·ui·noc·tial** /,i:kwɪ'nɒkʃəl, ,e-||-'nɑ:k-/ *adj* (at the time) of the equinox: *equinoctial gales* (=strong winds at this time)

**eq·ui·nox** /'i:kwɪ'nɒks, 'e-||-'nɑ:ks/ *n* either of the two times in the year (about March 21 and September 22) when all places in the world have day and night of equal length: *the vernal* (=spring) *and autumnal equinoxes* —compare **SUMMER SOLSTICE**, **WINTER SOLSTICE**

**e·quip** /'i:kwɪp/ *v* [T] -pp- **1** [(with, for)] to provide with what is necessary for doing something: *a well-equipped|poorly-equipped hospital* | *We can't afford to equip the army properly.* (=buy weapons, uniforms, etc., for it) | *They equipped themselves with a pair of sharp axes and set off for the forest.* **2** [(for)] to make able, fit, or prepared: *Your education will equip you for your future life.* [+obj+to-v] *Having anticipated the problems, I was well equipped to deal with the situation.*

**e·quip·ment** /'i:kwɪpmənt/ *n* [U] **1** the set of things needed for a particular activity, esp. an activity of a practical or technical kind: *She set up|tested all her equipment.* | *to*



install video equipment | fire-fighting equipment | The police found bomb-making equipment in the terrorists' hideout. 2 *fml* the process of equipping

**eq-ui-ta-ble** /'ekwɪtəbəl/ *adj* fair and just: *an equitable division of the money* | *an equitable solution to the dispute* —opposite **inequitable**; compare **EQUABLE** —**bly** *adv*

**eq-ui-ty** /'ekwɪti/ *n* [U] 1 *fml* the quality of being equitable; fairness: *They shared the work of the house with reasonable equity.* —opposite **inequity** 2 (esp. in the legal systems of English-speaking countries) the principle of justice which may be used to correct a law when that law would cause hardship in special cases 3 the total owned by a company after what it owes has been taken away from the value

**equity** <sup>2</sup> *n* [usu. *pl*] *tech* an ordinary SHARE (=one of the equal parts into which ownership of a company is divided), on which no fixed amount of interest is paid: *the equities market* | *equity capital/investment*

**Equity** 1 the British trade union of actors and actresses. Entrance to the union is extremely difficult; but without a membership card (**equity card**) an actor or actress cannot work as a professional. 2 also **Actor's Equity Association** *fml*— the American trade union for actors and actresses who work in the theatre —compare **AFTRA**, **SAG**

**e-quiv-a-lent** /'kwɪvələnt/ *adj* [(to)] (of time, amount, value, number, etc.) same; equal: *He changed his pounds for the equivalent amount in dollars.* | *Changing his job like that is equivalent to giving him the sack.* | *There is no exactly equivalent French tense to the present perfect tense in English.* —**ly** *adv* —**lence** *n* [U]

**equivalent** <sup>2</sup> *n* [(of, to)] something equivalent: *Some American words have no British equivalents.* | *Change this money for gold or its equivalent in dollars.* | *A company car is the equivalent of an extra £2000 a year on your salary.*

**e-quiv-o-cal** /'kwɪvəkəl/ *adj* 1 (of words or statements) having a double or doubtful meaning; **AMBIGUOUS** 2 (of behaviour or events) questionable; mysterious —opposite **unequivocal** —**ly** *adv* —**ly** *adv*

**e-quiv-o-cate** /'kwɪvəkeɪt/ *v* [I] *fml* to speak in an equivocal way on purpose to deceive people: *For goodness sake, answer yes or no, but don't equivocate!* —**cation** /'kwɪvə-'keɪʃən/ *n* [C;U]

**er** /ɜːr, ə/ *interj* (used when one cannot decide what to say next): *And then he — er — er — just suddenly seemed to — er — disappear!*

**e-ra** /'ɪrə/ *n* 1 a set of years which is counted from a particular point in time: *The Christian era is counted from the birth of Christ.* 2 a very long period of time in the history of the Earth or of human society, esp. as marked by events or developments of a particular kind: *The era of space travel has begun.*

**ERA** <sup>1</sup> /,iː ɑːr 'eɪ/ [*the*] *AmE* Equal Rights Amendment; a suggested change to American law, intended to give women the same legal rights as men. Although the suggested law was passed (=agreed to) by CONGRESS, not enough states agreed in time for it to become a law.

**ERA** <sup>2</sup> *n* earned run average; in **BASEBALL**, a number which represents how often a **PITCHER** has allowed people to hit the ball and then make a **RUN**<sup>2</sup> (10)

**e-rad-i-cate** /'rædɪkeɪt/ *v* [T] to put an end to (something bad or undesirable); get rid of completely: *to eradicate crime/disease/malaria/poverty* —**cator** *n* —**cation** /'rædɪ'keɪʃən/ *n* [U]

**e-raise** /'ɪreɪz||'ɪreɪs/ *v* [T] *fml* to rub out or remove (something, esp. a pencil mark): (fig.) *Nothing can erase from her mind the memory of that terrible day.*

**e-ras-er** /'ɪreɪzə/||-sər/ *n* *esp. AmE* something that is used to erase marks, esp. a piece of rubber for erasing pencil marks

**e-ra-sure** /'ɪreɪzə/||-ʃər/ *n* [C;U] *fml* (a place marked by) erasing

**ere** /eə/ *prep, conj* poet or old use before: *I shall be gone ere morning/ere you return.*

**e-rect** <sup>1</sup> /'ɪrekt/ *adj* 1 upright; standing straight up on end, not leaning over or lying down: *She held her head erect and her back straight.* 2 *med* (of the **PENIS**) in a state of **ERECTION** (3) —**ly** *adv* —**ness** *n* [U]

**erect** <sup>2</sup> *v* [T] 1 to fix or place (a solid thing which was lying

flat) in an upright position: *They erected their tent at the edge of the field.* 2 *fml* to build or establish (a solid thing which was not there before): *This monument was erected to Queen Charlotte.* (=in honour of the memory of Queen Charlotte)

**e-rec-tile** /'ɪrektəl||-tl/ *adj med* (of a part of the body, esp. the **PENIS**) able to fill with blood, which makes the part stand upright: *erectile tissue* (=flesh)

**e-rec-tion** /'ɪrekʃən/ *n* 1 [U] the erecting or building of something: *The erection of the new hospital took several years.* 2 [C] something built or erected 3 [C;U] (an example of) the state of the **PENIS** when upright: *to get/lose an erection*

**erg** /ɜːg||ɜːrg/ *n* a unit of work or **ENERGY**: *It takes about 350 ergs to lift a pin one inch.*

**er-go** /'ɜːgəu||'ɜːr-/ *adv Lat, sometimes humor* (used for introducing the result of a reasoned argument) therefore

**er-go-nom-ics** /,ɜːgə'nɒmɪks||,ɜːrgə'nɑː-/ also **biotechnology** *AmE*— *n* [U] the study of making the right working conditions, machines, and equipment for people to work most effectively —**ic** /,ɜːgə'nɒmɪk-||,ɜːrgə'nɑː-/ *adj*: *an ergonomic design* —**ically** /kli/ *adv*

**E-rie** /'ɪəri/, **Lake** a lake between the US and Canada. It is one of the **GREAT LAKES**. —see colour map on pages 1374-5

**Erie Canal** /,ɪ-.-'ɪ-/ [*the*] an artificial waterway in the American state of New York which connects Lake Erie and the Hudson River. Built in the early 19th century, the canal allowed trade between New York City and the states of the Midwest, which led to it being the subject of popular songs.

**Er-iks-son**, **Ericsson** /'erɪksən/, **Leif** /lɪf/ (10th or 11th century) a Norwegian who is thought to have sailed to North America around the year 1000 and so is considered by some to be the first European to discover the New World

**Er-i-tre-a** /,erɪ'treɪə||-'trɪzə/ an area in Ethiopia in NE Africa which has been in a state of **FAMINE** (=lack of food) and war for many years —**trean** *n, adj*

**ERM** /,ɪː ɑːr 'em/ *abbrev.* 1 *for*: **EUROPEAN EXCHANGE RATE MECHANISM** 2 *for*: **EXCHANGE RATE MECHANISM**<sup>2</sup>

**er-mine** /'ɜːmɪn||'ɜːr-/ *n* **ermine** or **ermine** 1 [U] the white winter fur of the **STOAT** (=a small animal), often worn, esp. formerly, by people such as kings and noblemen

► **CULTURAL NOTE** Ermine has always signalled wealth, and women esp. used to dream of owning an ermine coat, but now many people are against killing animals for their fur, and fur is out of fashion. ◀

2 [C] (the name given in winter to) a **STOAT**

**Er-nie** /'ɜːni||'ɜːr-/ the familiar name for a computer in Britain which picks the prize-winning numbers of **PREMIUM BONDS**. Ernie is the short form of the man's name Ernest and comes from the first letters of the words **Electronic Random Number Indicating (INDICATE) Equipment**.

**Ernst** /eənst||eərnst/, **Max** /mæks/ (1891–76) a German-born painter, well-known for his work in the fields of **DADAISM** and **SURREALISM**

**e-rode** /'ɪrəʊd/ *v* [I;T (AWAY)] to wear or be worn away gradually, esp. by the slow action of water, wind, etc.: *The coast is slowly eroding (away).* | *The sea erodes the rocks.* | (fig.) *Jealousy is eroding our friendship.*

**e-ro-ge-nous** /'ɪrədʒənəs||'ɪrəz-/ *adj tech* (of a part of the body) sexually sensitive: *The female breasts are an erogenous zone.*

**E-ros** /'ɪərəs||'erəs/ 1 the god of love in ancient Greek stories, known as **CUPID** in Roman stories. He is represented as a beautiful winged boy carrying a **BOW**<sup>3</sup> and **ARROWS**. 2 *n* [U] sexual love 3 a **STATUE** (=man-made figure) representing Love in Piccadilly Circus, London. People often meet near it. —see colour picture on page 423

**e-ro-sion** /'ɪrəʊzən/ *n* [U] the process of eroding or being eroded: *Soil erosion by rain and wind is a serious problem here.* | (fig.) *the slow erosion of royal power* —**sive** /'ɪrəʊsɪv/ *adj*

**e-rot-ic** /'ɪrɒtɪk||'ɪrəz-/ *adj* *apprec* of, dealing with, or producing sexual love and desire: *erotic feelings* | *an erotic picture* | *an erotic sensation* —**ally** /kli/ *adv*

► **USAGE** Compare **erotic**, **sexual**, and **sexy**. **Erotic** is used particularly for works of art: *an erotic film* | *some*







to the door. | a group of motorcyclists escorting the presidential limousine

**Escort** /'eskɔ:t||-ɔ:rt/ *n tdmk* a popular middle-sized car made by Ford

**es-crow** /'eskrəʊ/ *n* [U] an object, such as a written CONTRACT or document, or money, which is held by one person while an agreement between two other people is being fulfilled

**e-scutch-eon** /ɪ'skʌtʃən/ *n* a ceremonial shield on which the sign (COAT OF ARMS) of a noble family is painted

**Es-da test** /'ezdə test/ *n* electrostatic deposition analysis test; a scientific test used in legal cases to show in what order the pages of a document were produced. In Britain Esda tests have been used to prove that in certain important cases, the police lied about statements taken from people, or changed them later.: *Every time the Esda test was performed, it showed that Phillips's confession to the murder had not been recorded contemporaneously by the detectives*



Eskimo (Inuit)

**Es-ki-mo** /'eskɪməʊ/ *n* a member of a race of people living in the icy far north of N America, Siberia, and the surrounding islands. People from this race consider the word Eskimo offensive and prefer to be called Inuits. — **Eskimo** *adj*

► **CULTURAL NOTE** Many people still have an old-fashioned idea of Eskimos as living in IGLOOS (= houses made of ice), wearing furs, and fishing through holes in the ice, although modern Eskimos do not live like this.

**ESL** /,i: es 'el/ English as a Second Language; English taught to or studied by people whose mother tongue is not English but who are living in an English-speaking country. In Britain many adults and children from Asian backgrounds take ESL lessons as well as others coming from abroad either for work purposes or as REFUGEES. — compare EFL, ESOL, ESP, TEFL, TESOL

**ESOL** /'i:zɒl||-sɔ:l/ *AmE* English for Speakers of Other Languages; a way of teaching English which attempts to recognize the importance of the speaker's first or other languages — compare EFL, ESL, ESP, TEFL, TESOL

**e-soph-a-gus** /ɪ'sɒfəgəs||ɪ'sɑ:z/ *n esp. AmE* for OESOPHAGUS

**es-o-ter-ic** /,esə'terɪk, ,i:sə-/ *adj* unusual, secret, or mysterious and known only by a few people, esp. INITIATES: *esoteric knowledge/practices* — ~ **ally** /kli/ *adv*

**ESP**<sup>1</sup> /,i: es 'pi:z/ *n* [U] extrasensory perception; knowledge or feelings about outside, past, or future things obtained without the use of the ordinary five senses. Many people do not believe in this kind of knowledge as it is difficult to prove its existence scientifically.

**ESP**<sup>2</sup> English for Special Purposes; English taught to people who wish to learn it for a particular limited use, e.g. reading scientific documents. It will include specialist VOCABULARY.

**esp.** *written abbrev. for:* especially

**es-pe-cial** /ɪ'speʃəl/ *adj* [A] *fml* for SPECIAL<sup>1</sup> (2)

**es-pe-cial-ly** /ɪ'speʃəli/ also **specially** — *adv* **1** to a particularly great degree: "Do you like chocolate?" "Not especially." | *an especially difficult problem* **2** in particular; above all: *Noise is unpleasant, especially when you're trying to sleep.* **3** for a particular person, purpose, etc.: *I bought it especially for you.*

**Es-pe-ran-to** /,espə'ræntəʊ/ *n* [U] an artificial language intended for international use. Although it was invented in 1877, it has not been popular or successful. Many peo-

ple still do not know what Esperanto is and only a small number of people in the world speak it. — compare INTER-LINGUA; see also INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGE

**es-pi-o-nage** /'espɪənɜ:ʒ/ *n* [U] the action of spying (SPY); work of finding out secrets, esp. the political secrets of a country: *They were convicted of espionage.* | *Industrial espionage is the stealing of information about another firm's business.*

**es-pla-nade** /,esplə'neɪd || 'esplənɜ:d/ *n* a level open space for walking, often beside the sea in a seaside town

**ESPN** /,i: es pi: 'en/ *n* [U] a CABLE TELEVISION station in the US which broadcasts only sports

**es-pous-al** /ɪ'spaʊzəl/ *n* [C;U (of)] *fml* the fact of giving one's support to an aim, idea, etc.: *The government's espousal of monetarism may have increased our industrial problems.*

**es-pouse** /ɪ'spaʊz/ *v* [T] *fml* to (decide to) support (an aim, idea, etc.): *the socialist philosophy espoused by this organization*

**es-pres-so** /e'spresəʊ, ɪ'spre-/ *n* -sos [C;U] (a cup of) coffee made by forcing steam through crushed coffee beans. In Britain espresso coffee is chiefly found in Italian restaurants. It was esp. popular in the 1960s when young people met in coffee bars. In the US it is difficult to find it outside of large cities that may have a European influence.

**es-prit** /e'spri:z/ *n* [U] *Fr* liveliness and humour: *She performed the dance with great esprit.*

**esprit de corps** /e,spri: də 'kɔ:z/ *n* [U] *Fr* loyalty among the members of a group

**es-py** /ɪ'spaɪ/ *v* [T] *lit* to see suddenly, usu. from a distance or unexpectedly

**Esq.** /ɪ'skwaɪəʳ || 'esk-, ɪ'skwaɪər/ also **Esquire** *rare— n BrE* (in the past, the usual title for a man on a letter to him, e.g. "Robert Jones, Esq."; now most people would write "Mr Robert Jones"): *The envelope is addressed to Peter Jones, Esq.*

**Es-quire** /ɪ'skwaɪəʳ || 'esk-, ɪ'skwaɪər/ an American and British men's magazine which contains features such as men's fashion, sports, etc. Esquire is meant to be read by men aged between 20 and 40. It is similar to magazines such as COSMOPOLITAN for women.

**es-say**<sup>1</sup> /'eseɪ/ *n* **1** a short piece of writing on a particular subject as part of a course of study: *We've got to write an essay about the war with Napoleon.* | *literary essays* **2** a short piece of literature in which a writer gives his or her thoughts on a particular subject usu. in a graceful and pleasing style **3** *fml* or *pomp* an attempt — ~ **ist** *n*

**es-say**<sup>2</sup> /e'seɪ/ *v* [T] *fml* or *pomp* to make an attempt at: *When the weather improved we essayed the ascent of the mountain.*

**essay ques-tion** /'... ,.../ *n* a question in an examination paper that must have an answer in the form of an essay

**es-sence** /'esəns/ *n* **1** [(the)S (of)] the central or most important quality of a thing; the real or inner nature of a thing, by which it can be recognized or put into a class: *The essence of his religious teaching is love for all humanity.* | *the essence of the problem* **2** [C;U] something removed from a substance, usu. in the form of a liquid or jelly, having a strong smell or taste of the original substance: *essence of roses* | *vanilla essence* | *Did you use coffee essence in making this cake?* — compare EXTRACT<sup>2</sup> (2) **3** **in essence** in its/one's nature; ESSENTIALLY: *In essence, the problem is a simple one.* **4** **of the essence** *fml* very important: *We must hurry. Time is of the essence.*

**es-sen-tial**<sup>1</sup> /ɪ'senʃəl/ *adj* **1** [(to, for)] completely necessary for the existence, success, etc. of something: *We can live without clothes, but food and drink are essential.* | *Good timing is essential to/for our plans.* | *It's essential that you arrive/to arrive on time.* | **Essential** services will be maintained despite the industrial dispute. **2** [A] most important; central; FUNDAMENTAL: *What is the essential difference between the two political systems?*

**essential**<sup>2</sup> *n* [often pl.] **1** something necessary: *The room was furnished with the bare essentials: a bed, a chair, and a table.* **2** something of central importance. A book which is about the most important facts in a subject is often called "The Essentials of...", e.g. "The Essentials of English Grammar"

**es-sen-tial-ly** /ɪ'senʃəli/ *adv* **1** in reality, though perhaps not in appearance; BASICALLY: *She's essentially a very nice*



person. **2** necessarily: "Must I do it today?" "Not essentially."

**essential oil** /ˌɛʃ.ən.əl/ *n* a strong-smelling plant oil in a pure form, usu. mixed with alcohol, usu. used for PERFUME or medicine

**Es-sex** /'esɪks/ a COUNTY in England NE of London; ADMINISTRATIVE capital Chelmsford

**Essex, David** (1947– ) an English popular music singer and actor

**Essex, Robert Devereux, Earl of** (1567–1601) a favourite of the unmarried Queen Elizabeth I of England. He fell out of favour and was put to death by Elizabeth.

**Essex girl** /ˌɛʃ.ən.əl/ *n* *BrE infml, derog* the STEREOTYPE of a typical young woman from Essex (or the area near Essex) in SE England which is used in jokes, stories, etc. In these jokes an Essex girl is supposed to be loud, VULGAR, stupid and too willing to have sex.

**Essex man** /ˌɛʃ.ən.əl/ *n* *BrE infml, derog* the STEREOTYPE of a typical man from Essex (or the area near Essex) in SE England which is used in jokes, stories, etc. In these jokes an Essex man is supposed to be loud, VULGAR, not well educated or honest and to have very RIGHT-WING political opinions.

**Es-so** /'esəʊ/ *tdmk* a large petrol company which has many petrol stations in Britain, more than any other company except Shell. In the US it is called EXXON: "What petrol do you use?" "Well, I usually get Esso."

**est** *written abbrev. for:* **1** established: *H. Perkins and Company, est 1869* **2** estimated (ESTIMATE): *population est 60,000*

**EST** /ˌiːz es 'tiːz/ *abbrev. for* EASTERN STANDARD TIME

**es-tab-lish** /ɪ'stæblɪʃ/ *v* [T] **1** to set up; begin; CREATE: *This company/school was established in 1850.* | *The company has established a new system for dealing with complaints.* | *This judgment will establish a precedent.* | *a long-established company* | *Frank Cooper Limited – Established 1874* **2** [(as, in)] to cause to be firmly settled or accepted in a particular state or position; put beyond doubt: *She established herself as the most powerful minister in the new government.* | *Now that he has established himself in the team, he is playing with much more confidence.* | *Her latest film has really established her reputation as a director.* | *well-established procedures* **3** to find out or make certain of (a fact, answer, etc.): *I have been unable to establish the truth of his story.* [+that] *It has been established that she was not there at the time of the crime.* [+wh-] *The police are trying to establish where he is.* **4** [usu. pass.] to make (a religion) official for a nation: *The established religion of Egypt is Islam.*

**es-tab-lish-ment** /ɪ'stæblɪʃmənt/ *n* **1** [U (of)] the act of establishing or state of being established: *The government must encourage the establishment of new industry.* | *The club has grown rapidly since its establishment three years ago.* **2** [C] a place run as a business or for a special purpose: *The hotel is a well-run establishment.* | *a research establishment*

**Establishment** *n* [the+S+sing./pl. v] **1** the powerful organizations and people who control public life and support the established order of society: *It's no good fighting the Establishment; it/they will always win in the end.* | *He's an important Establishment figure.* | *The party is basically anti-Establishment.* | *He's very Establishment.*

► **CULTURAL NOTE** In Britain, members of the Establishment are usually men who have been to PUBLIC SCHOOL and Oxford or Cambridge University and then become heads of big companies or colleges, important CIVIL SERVANTS, etc. The Establishment is generally considered to be bad and unjust by people who are not part of it. In the US, the Establishment is especially associated with people from the East Coast, especially people who have been to schools such as Harvard and Yale. ◀

**2** (sometimes not cap.) a powerful controlling group of the stated kind: *Will the boxing Establishment allow this fight to be televised?*

**es-tate** /ɪ'steɪt/ *n* **1** a (large) piece of land in the country, usu. with one large house on it and one owner: *Real wine-lovers prefer wine which has been bottled on the estate.* **2**

*BrE* a piece of land on which buildings (of a stated type) have all been built together in a planned way: *An industrial estate has factories on it, and a housing estate has houses on it.* | *We live on a council estate.* (=one with houses built by the local council) **3** *law* the whole of a person's property, esp. as left after death: *When her will was published, we were surprised at the size of her estate.* **4** *old use or fml* the stated rank or condition in life: *They were joined together in the holy estate of matrimony.* (=marriage) —see also FOURTH ESTATE, REAL ESTATE

**estate a-gent** /ˌiː.ə.ɪ.ənt/ *BrE* || *real estate agent, realtor* *AmE*— *n* a person whose business is to buy, sell, or look after houses or land for people. Estate agents are generally unpopular because it is thought that they describe houses as much better than they really are, and that they charge a lot of money for very little work. —*estate agency n*

**estate car** /ˌiː.ə.ɪ.ənt/ *BrE* || *station wagon* *AmE*— *n* a private motor vehicle with a door at the back, folding or removable back seats, and a lot of room to put boxes, cases, etc., inside —compare HATCHBACK, SALOON, SPORTS CAR

**estate tax** /ˌiː.ə.ɪ.ənt/ *n* [U;C] *AmE* a tax on the money and possessions of a dead person, paid by the HEIRS, when the value is over a certain amount set by the government

**Es-tee Lau-der** /ˌɛstɪˈleɪdər/ a company which makes PERFUME, etc.

**es-teem** <sup>1</sup> /ɪ'stiːm/ *n* [U] *fml* respect; good opinion (of a person): *a distinguished scientist who is held in (high) esteem by his colleagues* —compare ESTIMATION (2); see also SELF-ESTEEM

**esteem** <sup>2</sup> *v* [T] **1** *fml* to respect and admire (esp. a person) greatly: *The old teacher was much loved and esteemed.* **2** [+obj+adj/n] *fml or pomp* to consider to be (esp. something good): *His employers did not esteem him (to be) worthy of trust.* | *We would esteem it a favour if you would settle this account forthwith.*

**es-thete** /ɪˈzθetɪk/ *n* *AmE* for AESTHETE —*esthetic* /ɪˈzθetɪk/ *es-*, *esthetical* *adj* —*esthetically* /kli/ *adv* —*esthetics* *n* [U]

**es-ti-ma-ble** /ˈestɪməbəl/ *adj* *fml* *apprec* (of a person or their behaviour) worthy of esteem —see also INESTIMABLE

**es-ti-mate** <sup>1</sup> /ˈestɪmeɪt/ *v* **1** [T (at)] to judge or calculate the nature, value, size, amount, etc., of (something), esp. roughly; form an opinion about: *We have not estimated the proper price for the contract yet.* | *The value of the painting was estimated at several thousand pounds.* [+ (that)] *I estimate that we should arrive at 5.30.* | *The movie cost an estimated \$25 million to make.* | "What time is the plane due?" "Well, the estimated time of arrival is 5.20." —see also UNDER/OVERESTIMATE **2** [I (for)] to calculate the probable cost of doing a job, such as building or repairing something: *I asked three building firms to estimate for the repairs to the roof.* —compare QUOTE <sup>1</sup> (3) —*mator n*

**es-ti-mate** <sup>2</sup> /ˈestɪmeɪt/ *n* **1** [(of)] a calculation or judgment of the nature, value, size, amount, etc., of something: *to make an estimate* | *My estimate of the cost was about right.* | *At a rough* (=not exact) *estimate there are about 6000 people in the crowd.* [+that] *Her estimate that we would arrive at 5.30 was exactly correct.* **2** a statement of the probable cost of doing a job: *We got two or three estimates before having the roof repaired, and accepted the lowest.* —compare QUOTATION (3)

**es-ti-ma-tion** /ˌestɪˈmeɪʃən/ *n* [U] **1** the act of estimating or forming a judgment: *This will simply lead, in our estimation, to further problems.* **2** ESTEEM <sup>1</sup>: *He has lowered himself in my estimation.* (=I no longer have such a high opinion of him)

**Es-to-ni-a** /e'stəʊniə/ a country in NE Europe bordered on the W and N by the Baltic Sea, on the E by Russia, and on the S by Latvia; capital Tallinn; population 1,573,000 (1989) —*nian* *adj*

**Es-to-ni-an** /e'stəʊniən/ *n* **1** [C] a person who comes from or whose parents come from Estonia **2** [U] the main language spoken in Estonia

**es-trange** /ɪ'streɪndʒ/ *v* [T (from)] to cause (esp. people in a family) to become unfriendly towards each other: *The argument estranged him from his brother.* — *ment n* [C;U (from, between)] : *The quarrel led to (a) complete estrangement (between her and her family).*

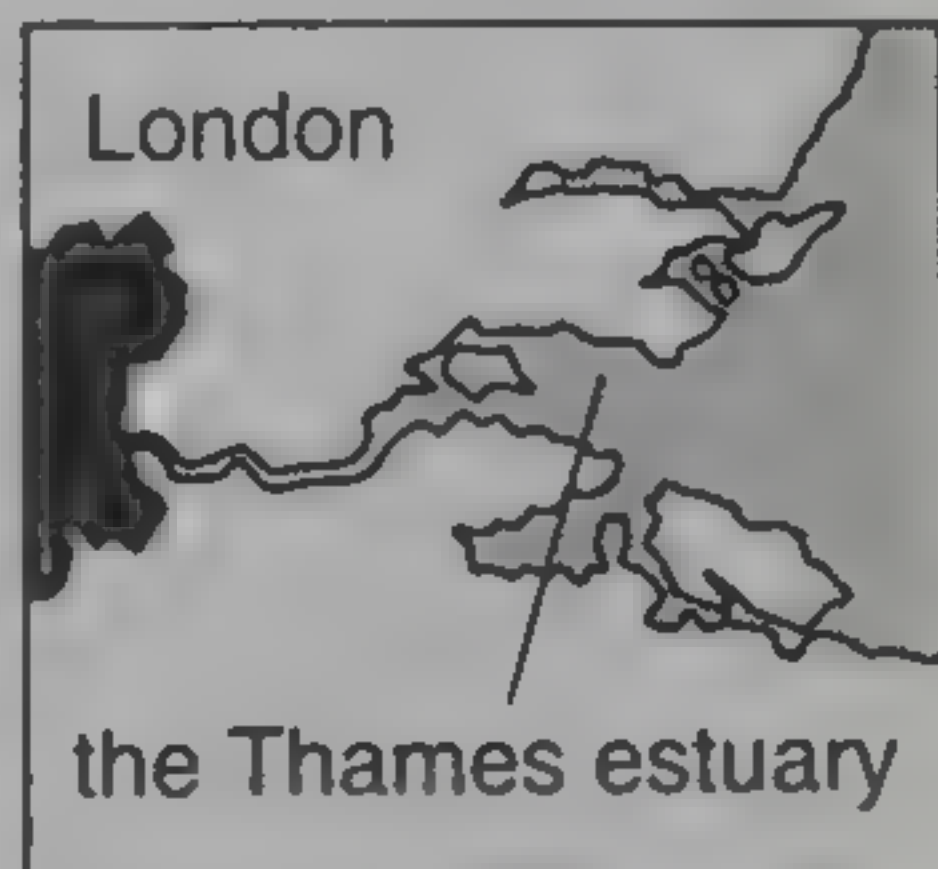


**es-tranged** /ɪ'streɪnɪd/ *adj* 1 no longer living with one's husband or wife: *The couple became estranged in the early eighties.* 2 no longer friendly with: *They never see their estranged daughter.*

**e-stro-gen** /'ɪzstrədʒən/ *n* AmE for OESTROGEN

**es-tu-ary** /'estʃuəri, -tʃəri/ *n* the wide lower part or mouth of a river, into which the sea enters at HIGH TIDE: *the Thames estuary*

estuary



**ET** /ɪz'ti:/ *n* a character in an extremely popular children's film of the same name which was made in 1982 by Steven Spielberg. ET is a very ugly but friendly being from outer space, famous for saying, "ET phone home." —see colour picture on page 685

**ET** *abbrev. for* EMPLOYMENT TRAINING

**ETA** /ɪz'ti:/ *n* estimated time of arrival; the time that a vehicle, esp. a plane, is expected to arrive

**ETA** /'etə/ a political organization in Spain which uses violence in its fight for a separate state for the Basque people which is independent of Spain and France

**et al.** /,et 'æl/ *adv* Lat *fml* and (the) other people: "*The Human Embryo*" by Brodsky, Rosenblum, *et al.*

**etc.** also **et-cet-e-ra** /,et'setərə/ *adv* Lat and the rest; and so on: *We'd better buy tea, sugar, etc.* | *The letter says pay at once, they've warned us before, etc., etc.*

**etch** /etʃ/ *v* [I;T (on, in)] to draw (a picture) by cutting lines on a metal plate with a needle and then using acid to eat out the lines, so that one can print from the plate: (fig.) *This terrible event is etched for ever on/in my memory.*

**etch-ing** /'etʃɪŋ/ *n* 1 a picture made by printing from an etched plate. 2 **Come up and see my etchings** *humor* a phrase which, in jokes, a man says to a woman to invite her upstairs to his bedroom so that he can have sex with her

**e-ter-nal** /ɪ'tɜːnl/ *adj* lasting for ever; without beginning or end: | (fig.) *I'm sick of their eternal complaints.* | (fig.) *an eternal optimist* — *~ly adv*

**Eternal City** /,et 'etnəl/ *poet* [the] Rome

**eternal tri-angle** /,et 'etnəl/ *n* [S] the difficult situation resulting from the love of two people, usu. of the same sex, for another person, usu. of the other sex: *The film tells a familiar story about an eternal triangle.*

**e-ter-ni-ty** /ɪ'tɜːnɪti/ *n* 1 [U] time without end: *God will live for all eternity.* 2 [U] the state of time after death, which is said to last for ever 3 [S] a very long time which seems endless: *I was so anxious that every moment seemed an eternity.*

**eternity ring** /,et 'etnəl/ *n* (esp. in Britain) a special kind of ring given as a sign of love that will last forever

**eth-a-nol** /'eθənl, 'ɪz-||-nəl/ also **ethylalcohol** — *n* [U] *tech* ALCOHOL (1)

**Eth-el-red II** /,eθəlred ðə 'sekənd/ also **Ethelred the Un-read-y** /-ði ʌn'redi-/ (968?–1016) an English king who lost his kingdom to the Danes

**e-ther** /'ɪθə/ *n* 1 [U] a light colourless gas used formerly as an ANAESTHETIC to put people to sleep before an operation 2 [*the*+S] *old use* the air as the material through which radio waves travel 3 [*the*+S] also **aether** *old use* or *poet* — the upper air

**e-the-re-al** /ɪ'theriəl/ *adj* 1 of unearthly lightness and very delicate; like a spirit or fairy: *The music has an ethereal quality.* | *She has an ethereal beauty.* 2 *poet* of the ETHER (2): *the blue ethereal sky* — *~ly adv*

**eth-ic** /'eθɪk/ *n* a system of moral behaviour: *the Christian ethic* | *The modern ethic seems to be to get as much money as you can without worrying how you get it.* | *the Protestant work ethic* —see also WORK ETHIC

**eth-i-cal** /'eθɪkəl/ *adj* 1 [*no comp.*] connected with ETHICS (2): *The article questions the ethical conduct of certain journalists, who are claimed to have used threats in order to obtain interviews.* | *The doctors' ethical committee decides whether it is morally right to perform certain operations.* 2 morally good or right: *I won't do it. It's not ethical.* —opposite **unethical**

**eth-i-cally** /'eθɪkli/ *adv* 1 in connection with ETHICS (2): *Ethically (speaking), I think the operation was wrong.* 2 in a morally good way: *I think he has behaved quite ethically.*

**eth-ics** /'eθɪks/ *n* 1 [U] the study of morals: *I'm doing ethics in my philosophy course.* 2 [U;P] moral rules or principles of behaviour governing a person or group: *Whether a country should have nuclear weapons or not should be a question of ethics, not of politics.* | *The psychiatrist was charged with violating professional ethics by talking about his patients.*

**E-thi-o-pi-a** /,ɪθi'əupiə/ a country in NE Africa bounded to the NE by the Red Sea; capital Addis Ababa; population 49,513,000 (1989). Ethiopia has been in the news because of its FAMINE (=people not getting enough to eat) and CIVIL WAR (=one group of people in the country fighting another group). —**pian** *adj*

**E-thi-o-pi-an** /,ɪθi'əupiən/ *n* a person who comes from or whose parents come from Ethiopia

**eth-nic** /'eθnɪk/ *adj* 1 of a racial, national, or tribal group: *ethnic art/traditions* 2 interestingly unusual because typical of such a group: *This music would sound more ethnic if you played it on steel drums.*

**ethnic** *n* AmE in Britain or the US, a person belonging to a group of a different race from the main group in the country

**ethnic cleansing** /,.. 'lɔː/ *n* [U] the process of removing a group of people from an area because of their race or religion, usu. by force, and sometimes by killing them. The word is used esp. in connection with the removal of Muslims by Serbs from some parts of Bosnia.

**eth-nic-ally** /'eθnɪkli/ *adv* in connection with a racial, national, or tribal group: *The two peoples are ethnically related.*

**ethnic mi-nor-i-ty** /,.. 'lɔː/ *n* a group of people of a different race from the main group in a country

**ethnic pride** /,.. 'lɔː/ *n* [U] belief in and loyalty to one's race

**eth-no-cen-tric** /,eθnə'sentrɪk/ *adj* based on the belief that one's own race, nation, group, etc. is better and more important than others: *He has the ethnocentric idea that the Scots are the most intelligent people in the world.*

**eth-nog-ra-pher** /eθ'nɒgrəfə/ *n* a person who studies ethnography

**eth-nog-ra-phy** /eθ'nɒgrəfi/ *n* [U] the scientific description of the different races of human beings —**phic** /,eθnə'græfɪk/ *adj* —**phically** /kli/ *adv*

**eth-nol-o-gy** /eθ'nɒlədʒi/ *n* [U] the scientific study of the different races of human beings —compare ANTHROPOLOGY, SOCIOLOGY —**gist** *n* —**gical** /,eθnə'lɒdʒɪkəl/ *adj* —**gically** /kli/ *adv*

**e-thos** /'ɪθɒs/ *n* the set of ideas, or beliefs, or the moral attitudes of a person or group: *The company ethos is one of cooperation between all members of the firm.* | *the public school ethos*

**eth-yl al-co-hol** /,eθəl 'ælkəhɒl, 'ɪzθaɪl-||-hɔːl/ also **ethanol** — *n* [U] *tech* ordinary alcohol found in alcoholic drinks. It is also used for removing fat and oil —compare METHYL ALCOHOL

**e-ti-o-lat-ed** /'ɪxtiələɪtɪd/ *adj* *fml* seriously weakened —**lation** /,ɪxtiə'leɪʃən/ *n* [U]

**et-i-ol-o-gy** /,eti'ɒlədʒi, 'ɪxti-||-'æɪlə/ *n* [U] *med* (the study of) the cause of disease: *What is the etiology of this condition?* (=What caused this illness?) —**gical** /,etiə'lɒdʒɪkəl/ *adj* —**gically** /kli/ *adv*

**et-i-quette** /'etɪket/ *n* [U] the formal rules of proper (social) behaviour: *medical/professional etiquette*

► **CULTURAL NOTE** In Britain, the rules of social behaviour are not as severe as they were in the past, but there are still many rules about formal behaviour in upper-class society. People who move up in society sometimes look at etiquette books to learn how they are expected to behave. ◀

**Et-na** /'etnə/ , also **Mount Etna** — an active VOLCANO in Sicily, Italy

**E-ton** /'ɪtn/ also **Eton Col-lege** /,.. 'lɔː/ — a very expensive British PUBLIC SCHOOL (=independent school) for boys to which the upper class and leaders of society send their sons —**ian** /ɪz'təʊniən/ *n, adj*



► **CULTURAL NOTE** Eton is generally considered to be the top British public school and a place which produces many of the nation's leaders. Men who have been educated at Eton are known as **Old Etonians** and many like their sons to be educated at Eton too. —see also **HARROW**. ◀

**et-y-mol-o-gy** /,etɪ'mɒlədʒi/ -'ma:z/ *n* 1 [U] the study of the origins, history, and changing meanings of words 2 [C] (an account of) the history of a particular word — compare entomology — **-gist** *n* — **-gical** /,etɪmə'lɒdʒɪkəl/ -'la:z/ *adj* — **-gically** /kli/ *adv*

**E-type** /'i: taɪp/ *n* *tdmk* the name of a type of fast, expensive, sports car made by Jaguar in the 1960s.

**eu-ca-lyp-tus** /,ju:kə'lɪptəs/ *n* a tall tree which produces a strong-smelling oil used in medicines for treating colds

**Eu-char-ist** /'ju:kə'rɪst/ *n* [*the*+S] (the holy bread and wine used in) the Christian ceremony based on Christ's last supper on Earth: *to take/receive the Eucharist* | *The priest celebrated the Eucharist.* —compare **COMMUNION**, **MASS** — **-ic** /,ju:kə'rɪstɪk/ *adj*

**Eu-clid** /'ju:klɪd/ (about 300 BC) a Greek **MATHEMATICIAN** who is known for the development of a system of **GEOMETRY** which is also called Euclid

**eu-clid-e-an**, **-ian** /ju:'klɪdiən/|ju-/ *adj* (*often cap.*) of or being the **GEOMETRY** (=system of describing lines, angles, surfaces, and solids) described by Euclid

**eu-lo-gis-tic** /,ju:lə'dʒɪstɪk/ *adj* *fml* (of a speech or piece of writing) full of eulogy: *a eulogistic speech about the great achievements of the dead king* — **-ally** /kli/ *adv*

**eu-lo-gize** also **-gise** *BrE* /'ju:lə'dʒaɪz/ *v* [T] *fml* to make a eulogy about (usu. a person or their qualities) — **-gist** *n*: *He's just a eulogist for the government.*

**eu-lo-gy** /'ju:lə'dʒi/ *n* [C;U (*on, of, to*)] *fml* (a speech or piece of writing containing) high praise, usu. of a person or their qualities: *a eulogy to the royal family*

**eu-nuch** /'ju:nək/ *n* a man who has been castrated (**CAS-TRATE**) (=had part of his sex organs removed), esp. one formerly employed in the women's areas of some Eastern courts: (fig.) *a political eunuch* (=someone who has no real political power)

**eu-phe-mis-m** /'ju:fəmɪzəm/ *n* [C;U] (an example of) the use of a pleasanter, less direct name for something thought to be unpleasant: *"Pass away" is a euphemism for "die".*

**eu-phe-mis-tic** /,ju:fɪ'mɪstɪk/ *adj* (of a word, speech, or writing) containing or consisting of euphemisms. Euphemistic words or phrases are marked *euph* in this dictionary: *"Ladies' room" is a euphemistic term for "toilet".* — **-ally** /kli/ *adv*

**eu-pho-ni-ous** /ju:'fəʊniəs/|ju-/ *adj* *fml* pleasant in sound

**eu-pho-ni-um** /ju:'fəʊniəm/|ju-/ *n* a musical instrument which is a kind of **TUBA**, made of brass and played by blowing

**eu-pho-ri-a** /ju:'fɔ:riə/|ju-/ *n* [U] a feeling of extreme happiness, pride, and excitement: *They were in a state of euphoria after the baby was born.* — **-ric** /ju:'fɔ:ɪk/|ju:'fɔ:ɪk, -'fa:r/ *adj* — **-rically** /kli/ *adv*

**Eu-phra-tes** /ju:'frentɪz/ [*the*] a long river which flows from Turkey through Syria and Iraq into the Persian Gulf

**Eu-ra-sian** /juə'reɪʒən, -ʃən/ *adj* 1 of Europe and Asia 2 (of a person) of mixed European and Asian birth

**Eu-re-ka** /juə'reɪkə/ *interj* *humor* used as a cry of pleasure at one's success in suddenly discovering the answer to a problem: *Eureka! I've found the answer!*

► **CULTURAL NOTE** **Eureka** means "I've found it" in Greek, and when people say it they are conscious of its use by Archimedes, who was in his bath when he suddenly thought of a way of measuring **DENSITY**. —see also **ARCHIMEDES** ◀

**eu-rhyth-mics** /ju:'rɪðmɪks/|ju-/ *n* [U;P] a system of exercising the body with music that is supposed to be good for the spirit — **-mic** *adj* [A]: *eurhythmic exercises*

**Eu-rip-i-des** /ju:'rɪpɪdɪz/ (?480–406 BC) an ancient Greek writer of plays

**Eu-ro** /'juərəʊ/ *adj* [A] European; used esp. for new things connected with the EC: *Isn't there going to be some sort of Euro scheme for it next year?*

**Euro-** see **WORD FORMATION**

**Euro-bash-ing** /'i.., .. / *n* [U] finding fault with everything connected with the EC. Certain British MPs on the right

of the Conservative Party and certain Labour MPs too are known for Euro-bashing.

**Eu-ro-bond** /'juərəʊbɒnd/|ba:nd/ *n* *tech* a financial **SECURITY** (5) on which the named **CURRENCY** is not the currency of the country in which it has been produced

**Eu-ro-cheque** /'juərəʊtʃek/ *tdmk* *n* a special sort of cheque which can be used for making payments from one's own bank account in most European countries

the symbol  
for Eurocheque



**Eu-ro-crat** /'juərəʊkræt/ *n* *often derog* an official of the EC

**Eu-ro-dis-ney** /'juərəʊdɪzni/ *tdmk* an extremely large amusement park, run by the Walt Disney Company, just outside Paris in France. It is based on Disneyland and Disneyworld in the US.

**Eu-ro-dol-lar** /'juərəʊ,dɒlə/|da:z/ *n* a US dollar which has been put into European banks to help trade and provide an international money system, because it is easy to exchange for other sorts of money

**Euro MP** /ju:ərəʊ em 'pi:z/ *An* a member of the European Parliament. Euro MPs are also known as **MEPs**: *Anita Pollock, Kingston's Euro MP, has succeeded in steering a report calling for better childcare through the European Parliament.*

**Eu-rope** /'ju:ərəp/ 1 one of the seven large land masses in the world (**CONTINENTS**). Europe lies N of the Mediterranean and goes E as far as the Ural Mountains in the USSR. —see **CONTINENT (USAGE)** 2 the EC: *Britain's future lies in Europe.* | *I am sure Britain was right to go into Europe.* (=to join the EC) 3 the mainland of the **CONTINENT** of Europe, not including the British Isles: *With the Channel Tunnel we could travel to Europe direct.* 4 **Europe from the Atlantic to the Urals** the dream of a greater undivided Europe rather than a Europe divided into opposing East and West by political differences

**Eu-ro-pe-an** /'juərə'pi:ən/ *adj* of or from Europe: *Euro-pean trade*

**European** <sup>2</sup> *n* 1 a person who comes from or whose parents come from Europe 2 *infml* a person who is keen on the idea of the EC or of closer union between European countries

**European Coal and Steel Com-mu-ni-ty** /,...., .., '.,.... / also **ECSC**— [*the*] a European Community body which gives help to the coal and steel industries

**European Com-mis-sion** /,...., '.,.... / *abbrev.* **EC** [*the*] a group of 17 members, including two British, chosen by the countries belonging to the EC to suggest plans for it, carry out the EC's decisions, and make sure its laws are kept —see also **EC**

**European Com-mis-sion-er** /,...., '.,.... / *n* a member of the European Commission

**European Com-mu-ni-ty** /,...., '.,.... / [*the*] the EC

**European Con-ven-tion on Hu-man Rights** /,...., '.,...., '.,.... / [*the*] an agreement which many European countries, including Britain, have signed to show that they will respect people's rights of freedom, quality, etc. If somebody wants to ask for this convention to be obeyed, they go to the **European Human Rights Commission** in Strasbourg. If they are still not satisfied, they can take their case to the European Court of Human Rights.

**European Court of Hu-man Rights** /,...., '.,...., '.,.... / [*the*] the court of the Council of Europe

**European Court of Jus-tice** /,...., '.,.... / [*the*] the court of the EC, in Luxembourg

**European Cup** /,...., '.,.... / [*the*] 1 a football competition between national teams of European countries 2 the cup given to the winner of this competition

**European Cup-win-ners' Cup** /,...., '.,...., '.,.... / [*the*] 1 a football competition to find the best of the teams which have won the national cup finals in their own countries 2 the cup given to the winner of this competition

**European Cur-ren-cy U-nit** /,...., '.,...., '.,.... / see **ECU**



**European Ec-o-nom-ic Com-mu-ni-ty** /,.....,.....,...../ also **Community** [*the*] the EEC

**European Ex-change Rate Mech-a-nis-m** /,.....,...../ also **ERM**, **exchange rate mechanism**— [*the*] a system for controlling the exchange rate between the money of one EC country and that of another. Britain joined the ERM in 1991 and left again in 1992.

**European Free Trade As-so-ci-a-tion** /,.....,...../ also **EFTA**— [*the*] an organization of non-EC countries which aimed to establish free trade between themselves. In 1991 it was agreed that EFTA countries should enter into an association with the EC.

**European Mas-ters** /,.....,...../ [*the*] an important GOLF competition held in different European countries

**European Mon-e-ta-ry Sys-tem** /,.....,...../ *abbrev. EMS* [*the*] a system established in 1979 to limit changes in exchange rates between the money of one EC country and another

**European O-pen** /,.....,...../ [*the*] an important GOLF competition played in Europe and open to players from all over the world: *Sandy Lyle finished second in the European Open.*

**European Par-li-a-ment** /,.....,...../ *n* [*the*] a parliament directly elected by the people in the EC. Its powers are limited, but increasing.

**European part-ners** /,.....,...../ *n* [P] *BrE fml* our European partners the other member states of the EC

**European Space A-gen-cy** /,.....,...../ also *abbrev. ESA*— [*the*] an organization formed in 1975 to manage Europe's space programme

**Eu-ro-scep-tic** /'juərəʊ'skeptɪk/ *n* a British politician who is not in favour of Britain's membership of the EC

**Eu-ro-tun-nel** /'juərəʊtʌnl/ *tdmk* a partnership of a French company and a British company responsible for building the CHANNEL TUNNEL

**Eu-ro-vi-sion Song Con-test** /'juərəʊvɪʒən'sɒŋ,kɒntest/ -'sɔ:ŋ,kɒntest/ [*the*] a competition shown on television in which singers or groups of singers representing European countries sing specially written popular songs. The Eurovision Song Contest is very popular, but many British people, esp. young people, make jokes about it, saying that the songs are silly and not very good.

**Eu-ry-di-ce** /'juə'rɪdɪsɪ/ see ORPHEUS AND EURYDICE

**eu-ryth-mics** /ju:'rɪðmɪks/ *n* EURHYTHMICS

**Eurythmics** a British POP<sup>3</sup> group consisting of Dave Stewart and Annie Lennox

**eu-sta-chian tube** /ju:'steɪʃən,tju:b|-,tu:b/ *n* (*often cap.*) *med* either of the pair of tubes which join the ears to the throat

**Eus-ton** /'ju:stən/ one of the main line railway stations in London —see colour map on page 817

**eu-tha-na-si-a** /ju:θə'neɪziə/ -'neɪzə/ also **mercy-killing**— *n* [U] *tech or euph* the painless killing of people who are incurably ill or very old. In Britain and the US euthanasia is illegal, but many people approve of it in certain cases, and some would like to see the law changed.

**e-vac-u-ate** /ɪ'vækjuet/ *v* [T] **1** to take all the people away from (a place): *The village was evacuated because the army needed it.* **2** [(from, to)] to move (a person) away from a place in order to protect them from danger: *In the war many children were evacuated from the cities to the countryside.* | *After the explosion at the plastics factory the town was evacuated.* **3** *fml* to empty (the bowels) —**ation** /ɪ,vækju'eɪʃən/ *n* [C;U]

**e-vac-u-ee** /ɪ,vækju'i:/ *n* a person who has been evacuated. For a British person, a typical evacuee is one of the many thousands of British children sent out of the big cities during the Second World War to live with another family in a safe place.

**e-vade** /ɪ'veɪd/ *v* [T] **1** *derog* to avoid (esp. a duty or responsibility), esp. using deception: *Give me a direct answer, and stop evading the issue.* [+*v-ing*] *If you try to evade paying your taxes you risk going to prison.* **2** to get out of the way of or escape from: *She evaded her pursuers by hiding in a cave.* | *After his escape he evaded capture for several days.* —see also EVASION

**e-val-u-ate** /ɪ'væljuet/ *v* [T] to calculate or judge the value of: *The school has only been open for six months, so it's hard to evaluate its success.* —**ation** /ɪ,vælju'eɪʃən/ *n* [C;U]

**ev-a-nes-cent** /,evə'nesənt/ *adj fml* soon disappearing and being forgotten —**cence** *n* [U]

**e-van-gel-i-cal** /,ɪvæn'dʒelɪkəl/ *adj* **1** (*often cap.*) (of certain Protestant Christian churches) believing in the importance of faith, of studying the Bible, and of persuading people to become Christians, rather than in religious ceremonies **2** *sometimes derog* showing (too) great eagerness in spreading one's own beliefs or ideas: *They are pushing their ideas with an almost evangelical fervour.* —**ism** *n* [U]

**evangelical**<sup>2</sup> *n* a person who has evangelical beliefs

**e-van-gel-ist** /ɪ'vændʒəlɪst/ *n* a person who travels from place to place and holds religious meetings in order to persuade people to become Christians —see BILLY GRAHAM —**ism** *n* [U] —**listic** /ɪ,vændʒəlɪstɪk/ *adj*

**Evangelist** *n* any of the four writers (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John) of the books of the Bible called the Gospels

**e-van-gel-ize** also **-lise** *BrE* /ɪ'vændʒəlaɪz/ *v* [I;T] to teach the Christian religion as an evangelist

**Ev-ans** /'evənz/, **Dame E-dith** /'i:dɪθ/ (1888–1976) an English actress, remembered esp. for playing the part of Lady Bracknell in the play *The Importance of Being Earnest*

**e-vap-o-rate** /ɪ'væpəreɪt/ *v* [I;T] to (cause to) change into steam and disappear: *The rainwater in the street soon evaporated in the warm sunshine.* | (fig.) *Hopes of reaching an agreement are beginning to evaporate.* (=disappear) —**ration** /ɪ,væpə'reɪʃən/ *n* [U]

**evaporated milk** /,.....,...../ *n* [U] tinned milk which is thickened by taking away some of the water, but not sweetened —compare CONDENSED MILK

**e-va-sion** /ɪ'veɪʒən/ *n* **1** [U] the act of evading (EVADE) —see also TAX EVASION **2** [C] something evasive, esp. an attempt to avoid telling the whole truth: *The minister's speech was full of evasions.*

**e-va-sive** /ɪ'veɪsɪv/ *adj* **1** *derog* not direct; trying to hide the truth: *She gave an evasive answer.* **2** intended to avoid being hit, seized, etc.: *If the bullets start coming this way, take evasive action.* —**ly** *adv* —**ness** *n* [U]

**e-ve** /ɪv/ *n* **1** [U] (*usu. cap.*) the night or day before the stated religious day or holiday: *We're giving a party on Christmas Eve.* | *December 31st is New Year's Eve.* **2** [*the*+S (of)] the time just before an important event: *On the eve of the election no one was confident enough to predict the result.* **3** [U] poet evening

**Eve** in the Jewish and Christian religions and in Islam, the first woman. According to the Bible, Eve lived in the Garden of Eden with Adam, the first man: *There's nothing new in such crimes. They've been going on since Eve ate the apple in the Garden of Eden.* —see FALL and see colour picture on page 424

**e-ven**<sup>1</sup> /'ɪvən/ *adv* **1** (used just before the surprising part of a statement, to add to its strength) which is more than might be expected: *Even the younger children enjoyed the concert.* (=so certainly everyone else did) | *The younger children even enjoyed the concert.* (=so certainly they enjoyed everything else) | *He's a strict vegetarian — he doesn't even eat cheese.* | *She was so weak after the illness that she couldn't even walk without help.* **2** (used for making comparisons stronger) still; yet: *It was cold yesterday, but it's even colder today.* **3** (used for adding force to an expression) (and) one might almost say; INDEED (2): *He looked depressed, even suicidal.* | *He looked depressed, suicidal even.* **4** **even as** just at the same moment as: *I tried to phone her, but even as I was phoning she was leaving the building.* **5** **even if** no matter if: *Even if we could afford it, we wouldn't go abroad for our holidays.* (=because we don't want to. Compare *If we could afford it, we'd (like to) go abroad for our holidays.*) **6** **even now/so/then** in spite of what has/had happened; though that is true: *I explained everything, but even then he didn't understand.* | *It was raining, but even so we had to go out.* **7** **even though** though: *Even though it was raining, we had to go out.*

**even**<sup>2</sup> *adj* **1** [(with)] flat, level, and smooth; forming a straight line: *After driving on the bumpy surface, it was nice to get back onto even ground.* | *Cut the bushes even with the fence.* (=not higher and not lower) **2** [(with)] (of things that can be measured and compared) equal: *She won the first game and I won the second, so now we're*



*even* /I'm even with her. | He cheated me, but I'll get even with him (=harm him as he has harmed me) one day! | He stands an even chance of winning. (=it is equally likely that he will win or lose) —see also EVENS, BREAK  
**even** 3 (of a number) that can be divided exactly by two: 2, 4, 6, 8, etc. are even numbers. —opposite **odd** 4 regular and unchanging: travelling at an even speed | She has a very even temperament. (=stays calm and doesn't often get angry or excited) —compare UNEVEN —~ly adv —~ness n [U]

### even<sup>3</sup> v

**even out** phr v [I;T] (=even sthg. ↔ out) to (cause to) become level or equal: Prices have been rising very fast, but they should even out soon. | The loss of their best player has evened out the difference between the teams.

**even** sthg. ↔ **up** phr v [T] to make equal or fairer; produce a fair balance in: You've paid for the meal, so if I pay for the taxi that'll even things up.

### even<sup>4</sup> n [U] poet evening

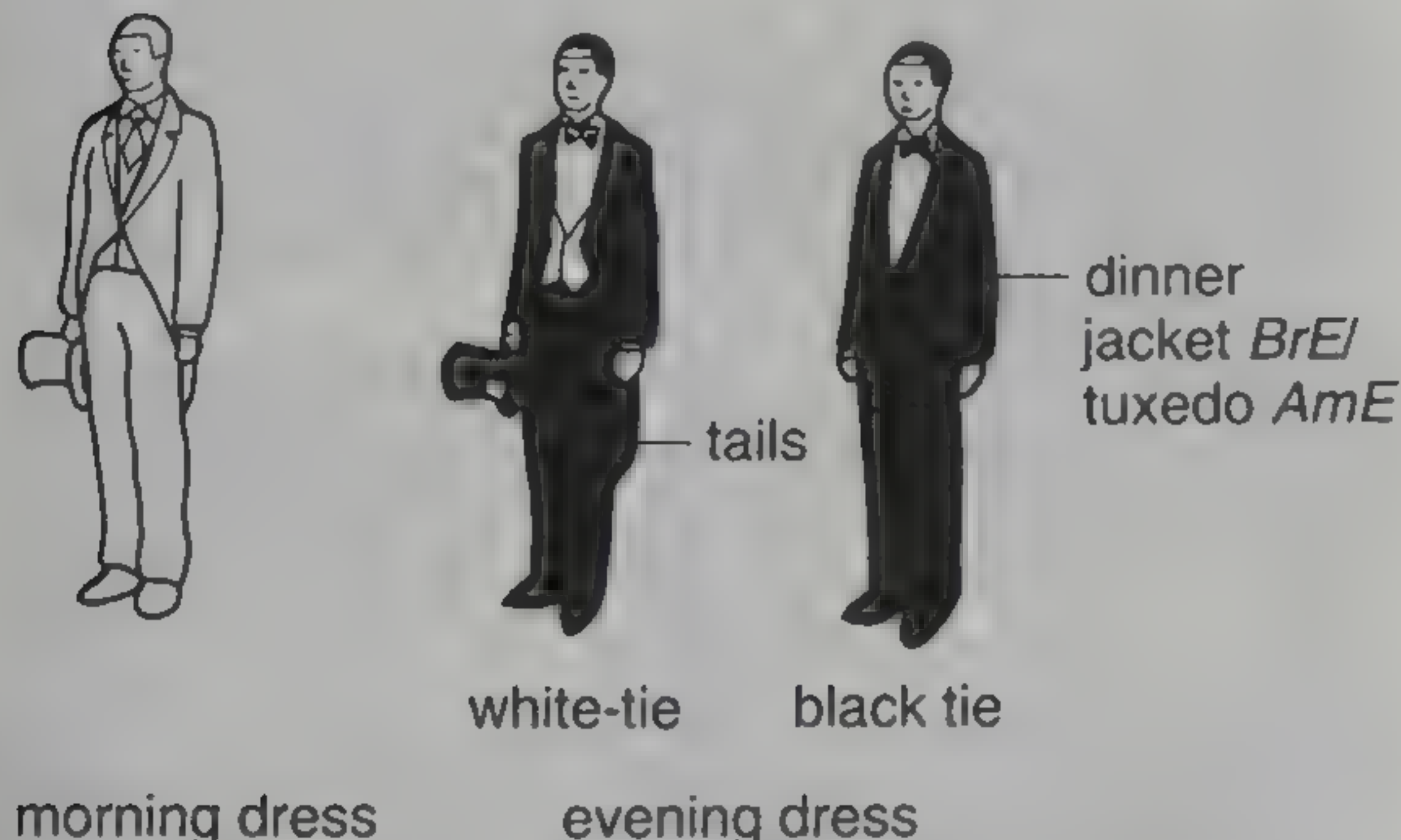
### even field /,iːvənˈfiːld/ n EVEN PLAYING-FIELD

### even-hand-ed /,iːvənˈhændəd/ adj giving fair and equal treatment to all sides; IMPARTIAL

**evening** /'iːvniŋ/ n 1 [C;U] the end of the day and early part of the night, between sunset or the end of the day's work and bedtime: a warm evening | on Tuesday evenings | I'll work in the evening. | an evening party | (fig.) People look forward to security in the evening (=end part) of their lives. —compare AFTERNOON and see also EVENINGS  
 2 [C] entertainment of the stated type, happening in the early part of the night: Will you come to our musical evening on Thursday? 3 **evenin'** all quote the phrase used by the policeman Dixon at the beginning of each programme of *Dixon of Dock Green*, an old British television programme. People sometimes say this as a joke when they meet their friends in the evening, or when they are pretending to be a policeman.

**evening class** /'iːvənɪŋˈklɑːs/ n a lesson which usu. adults attend in the evenings: Details of evening classes are given below.

### evening dress



white-tie black tie

morning dress

evening dress

**evening dress** /'iːvənɪŋˈdres/ n 1 [U] special clothes worn for formal occasions in the evening usu. a formal suit and a BOWTIE for men and a long dress for women 2 [C] a usu. long dress worn by women on such formal occasions

► **CULTURAL NOTE** People are much freer these days to wear what they like when they go out, e.g. to the theatre or a concert. Invitations and tickets for some dances, etc. ask people to wear evening dress, and one would expect to wear it, e.g., to a dance in high society, or to a dinner in honour of a visiting head of state. —compare FULL DRESS, MORNING DRESS; see also BLACK-TIE, WHITE-TIE ◀

**evening meal** /,iːvənɪŋˈmiːl/ n esp. BrE the main meal of the day, usu. eaten between about 6 and 8 o'clock in the evening: Bed, breakfast, and evening meal £22.50 | We get an evening meal when we're on the late shift.

**evenings** /'iːvniŋz/ adv esp. AmE in the evening repeatedly; during any evening: I'm always at home evenings.

**Evening Standard** /,iːvənɪŋˈstændəd/ also **Standard**— [the] a daily newspaper sold in London

**evening star** /,iːvənɪŋˈstɑːr/ n [the] (often cap.) a bright PLANET, usu. Venus, seen in the western sky in the evening —compare MORNING STAR

**even play-ing field** /,iːvənˈpleɪɪŋˈfiːld/ also **even field**— n esp. BrE a situation in which competitors can compete without any of them having unfair disadvantages. This expres-

sion is often used when people are talking about economic competition, e.g. when someone is complaining that THIRD WORLD countries do not get a fair chance.

**evens** /'iːvənz/ esp. BrE || **even odds** /,iːvənˈɒdz/ esp. AmE— n infml chances that are the same for and against: The chances of her coming are about evens. (=equally likely that she will or won't)

**e·ven·song** /'iːvənˈsɒŋ/ || -sɔːŋ/ n [U] (often cap.) the evening religious service in the Church of England. This service is often sung, and many British COMPOSERS have written music for it. —compare COMPLINE, MORNING PRAYER, VESPERS

**e·vent** /'iːvənt/ n 1 [C] a happening, esp. an important, interesting, or unusual one: The programme reviews the most important events of 1985. | The article discusses the (course of) events which led up to his resignation. | a social/sporting event —see also HAPPY EVENT, NON-EVENT 2 [C] any of the races, competitions, etc., arranged as part of a day's sports: The next event will be the 100 metres race. —see also FIELD EVENT, THREE-DAY EVENT 3 [(the) S] a (possible) case: In the event of rain (=if it rains), the party will be held indoors. | I'll probably see you tomorrow, but in any event (=even if I don't) I'll phone. | I don't know whether I'm going by car or by train, but in either event (=whichever I do) I'll need money. 4 at all events in spite of everything; at least: She had a terrible accident, but at all events she wasn't killed. 5 in the event esp. BrE as it happened; when it actually happened: We were afraid he would be nervous on stage, but in the event he performed beautifully.

**even-tem-pered** /,iːvənˈtɛmpəd/ adj having a calm good temper; not easily made angry; EQUABLE

**e·vent·ful** /'iːvəntfəl/ adj full of interesting or exciting events: He's led quite an eventful life. | We've had rather an eventful day. —opposite **uneventful** —~ly adv —~ness n [U]

**e·ven·tide** /'iːvəntaɪd/ n [(the) U] poet 1 evening: at eventide 2 old age: The Eventide Rest Home, £300 per week

**e·ven·tu·al** /'iːvəntʃuəl/ adj [A] (of an event) happening at last as a result: The new computer system is expensive, but the eventual savings it will bring are very significant. | a research programme aimed at the eventual eradication of this disease

**e·ven·tu·al·i·ty** /'iːvəntʃuəlɪti/ n fml a possible event or result, esp. an unpleasant one: We must be prepared for all eventualities/for any eventuality. | This plan covers (=has an answer for) all eventualities.

**e·ven·tu·al·ly** /'iːvəntʃuəli, -tʃəli/ adv at last; in the end: He worked so hard that eventually he made himself ill. | After many attempts she eventually managed to get promotion.

**e·ven·tu·ate** /'iːvəntʃueɪt/ v

**eventuate in sthg.** phr v [T] fml or pomp to result in; have as a result: A rapid rise in prices soon eventuated in mass unemployment.

**ev·er** /'evə/ adv 1 (used mostly in questions, negatives, comparisons, and sentences with if) at any time: Nothing ever makes him angry. | "Do you ever go to concerts?" "No, never. | Yes (sometimes)." | I don't remember ever seeing him before. | If you're ever in Spain, do come and see me. | "Have you ever been to Paris?" "No, never. | Yes, I have." | It's colder than ever today. (=colder than it has been before) | That's the biggest fish I've ever seen. | I hardly ever (=almost never) go to bed after midnight. | He rarely, if ever, (=probably never) loses his temper. | The company is making ever larger (=increasingly large) profits. | He's a dynamic businessman, if ever there was one. (=extremely dynamic) | He's still as cheerful as ever in spite of all his disappointments. | (infml) I never ever drink coffee. 2 (used esp. with expressions of time or in combination) always: He came here for a holiday several years ago and he's lived here ever since. | The prince and princess got married and lived happily ever after. | As ever (=as usually happens), she refused to admit that she was wrong. | The world's ever-increasing population will cause great problems in the future. | I will love you for ever. 3 (used after how, what, when, where, who, and why for giving force to a question): What ever are you doing? | How ever shall we get there? 4 AmE infml (used for strengthening EXCLAMATIONS in the form of questions): Was he ever mad! (=he was very angry) 5 ever and anon poet from time to time 6 ever so/such infml,



esp. BrE *very*: *It's ever so cold.* | *She's ever such a nice girl.*  
**7 Yours ever** also **Ever yours**— *infml* (used at the end of a letter above the signature)

**Ev-e-rage** /'evərɪdʒ/, **Dame Edna** see DAME EDNA

**Ev-e-rest**¹ /'evərɪst, -rest/ also **Mount Everest**— the highest mountain in the world (8848 metres), in the Himalayas, on the border of Tibet and Nepal. It was first climbed by Sir Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay on a British attempt in 1953.

► **CULTURAL NOTE** British people were very proud of the British team's success in climbing Everest, and esp. pleased that it was done in the year of the Queen's CORONATION. People sometimes use "Everest" to give the idea of something which is the highest achievement. ◀

**Everest**² *tdmk* a British company which supplies DOUBLE GLAZING (=glass on a window in two separate sheets with a space between them)

**Ev-er-glades** /'evəgleɪdz/ -vər-/ [*the*+P] an area of low wet tropical land in Florida in the USA covering about 5000 square miles. The Everglades, a national park, is famous for its wildlife, esp. ALLIGATORS.

**ev-er-green** /'evəgrɪn/ -ər-/ *n, adj* (a tree or bush) that does not lose its leaves in winter: (fig.) *I love these evergreen tunes.* (=old ones that are still good or popular) —compare CONIFEROUS, DECIDUOUS

**ev-er-last-ing** /,evə'læstɪŋ • ||, evər'læ-/ *adj* 1 *fml* lasting for ever; without an end: [A; after *n*] *God has promised us everlasting life/life everlasting after death.* 2 [A] *derog* lasting too long or happening too often: *I'm fed up with your everlasting complaints!* — ~ly *adv*

**Ev-er-ly Broth-ers** /'evəli ,brʌðəz/ -vərli ,brʌðərz/, **The Don Everly** (1937– ) and **Phil Everly** (1939– ), two American popular music singers, songwriters, and GUITAR players with a very recognizable soft style of singing together. They were successful in the 1950s and 1960s and influenced many other singers.

**ev-er-more** /,evə'mɔːr/ -vər-/ *adv* *lit* for all future time: *He swore to love her (for) evermore.*

**Ever Read-y** /,.. 'rɛd-ə/ *n* *tdmk* a company which makes batteries (BATTERY (1))

**Ev-ert** /'evət/ -ərt/, **Chris** /krɪs/ (1954– ) an American tennis player who won Wimbledon and the US Open many times and is one of the most successful and popular women tennis players ever

**Ev-er-ton** /'evətən/ -vər-/ the name of a British football club based in Liverpool

**ev-ery** /'evri/ *determiner* 1 each (of more than two): *Every student* (=all the students) *has to take the examination.* | *Every time I see him* (=whenever I see him) *he looks miserable.* | *Eat up every (single) bit of your supper.* (=all of it) | *I enjoyed every minute of the party.* (=all of it) | *Go to bed, every one of you!* | *My new job is more interesting in every way than my old one.* | (*fml*, after a POSSESSIVE) *They believed his every word.* (=everything he said) —see USAGE 2 (of things that can be counted, esp. periods of time) once in each: *He comes to see us every day/every three days.* | *Change the oil in the car every 5000 miles.* 3 as much (hope, chance, reason, etc.) as possible: *There is every chance that she will succeed.* (=she probably will) | *There is every reason to believe that he is telling the truth.* | *The airline takes every possible measure to ensure the safety of its passengers.* 4 **every last** *infml* every, not leaving out any: *You must pick up every last bit of paper from the floor.* 5 **every now and then** also **every now and again, every so often**— from time to time; sometimes but not often: *I write to him every now and then.* 6 **every other** (of things which can be counted) the 1st, 3rd, 5th, etc. or the 2nd, 4th, 6th, etc.: *Take the medicine every other day.* | *They visit us every other month.*

► **USAGE** Compare **each** and **every**. 1 **Each** before a noun takes a singular verb. You use **each** when you are thinking of the members of a group separately, or one at a time: *Each pupil was given a different book by the teacher.* **Every** always takes a singular verb. You use **every** when you are thinking of a whole group, or making general statements: *Every boy ran in the race.* | *Every child likes* (=all children like) *to get presents.* 2 **Each** can be used before *of*, or after a subject, in sentences like these: *Each of us wants to get a share of the money.* | *We each have a room of our own.* **Every** cannot be used in these positions. ◀

**ev-ery-bod-y** /'evrɪbɒdi/ -bɒdi/ *pron* every person; everyone: *Everybody agreed it was a good idea.* | *The police told everybody to remain in their cars.* —see EVERYONE (USAGE)

**ev-ery-day** /'evrɪdeɪ/ *adj* [A] ordinary, common, and usual: *Accidents and small injuries are an everyday occurrence in this job.* | *After the bomb it was some time before the town resumed its everyday routines.* | *Conserving water is part of everyday life in Australia.* | *The closure of the local bus service will make a great difference to their everyday lives.* —compare DAY-TO-DAY (1)

**Ev-ery-man** /'evrɪmæn/ *lit* a typical ordinary person (from the name of a character in a 16th century play): *The leading character is a symbol for Everyman.*

**ev-ery-one** /'evrɪwʌn/ *n* every person: *If everyone is ready, we'll begin.* | *They gave a prize to everyone who passed the exam.* | *I stayed at work after everyone else* (=every other person) *had gone home.* | *Has everyone brought their exercise books?* | *Everyone but John arrived on time.* (=John was late) | *The canteen's almost empty! Where is everyone?* (=the people who are usually here)

► **USAGE 1** **Everyone, every, anyone, no one, and someone** (also **everybody**, etc.) always take a singular verb, but they are often followed by a plural pronoun, except in very formal speech and writing: *Has everyone finished their drinks/his or her drink (fml)?* | *Anyone can do it if they try/if he or she tries (fml).* | *Someone's left the door open, haven't they?* 2 Compare **every one** and **everyone**. **Everyone** (or **everybody**) can only be used of people and is never followed by "of": **Every one** means each person or thing, and is often followed by "of". **Everyone in the class passed the exam.** | **There are 16 students and every one of them passed.** ◀

**ev-ery-thing** /'evrɪθɪŋ/ *pron* 1 (used with singular verbs) each thing; all things: *Everything is ready for the party.* | *I've forgotten everything I learnt at school.* | *They've eaten everything else.* (=all the other things) 2 the most important thing or person: *Money isn't everything.* | *Her daughter is everything to her.* 3 and **everything** *infml* and so on; ETC.: *She's worried about her work and everything.* 4 **everything you (ever/always) wanted to know about** (sthg.), but never dared/were afraid (to) **ask humor** a phrase used to advertise information; it was first used, not humorously, to advertise a book about sex: *Everything you wanted to know about getting back to work, but never dared to ask!*

**ev-ery-where** /'evrɪweə/ || also **ev-ery-place** /-pleɪs/ *AmE*— *adv* (in, at, or to) every place: *I can't find it though I've looked everywhere.* | *His cats follow him everywhere he goes.* | *We must clean the house — everywhere looks so dirty!* | *It was raining hard and there were puddles everywhere.*

**every which way** /,.. 'wɪk-ə/ *adv* *AmE infml* (with verbs of movement) in every direction, without any order: *When the police arrived, the crowd started running every which way.*

**e-vict** /ɪ'vɪkt/ v [T (from)] to force to leave a house or land by law: *If you don't pay your rent you'll be evicted.* — ~ion /ɪ'vɪkʃən/ *n* [C;U]

**ev-i-dence** /'evɪdəns/ *n* [U] 1 [(of, for)] something, such as a fact, sign, or object that gives proof or reasons to believe or agree with something: *an important piece of evidence* | *When the police arrived, he had already destroyed the evidence of his guilt.* (=papers, photos, etc., proving he was guilty) | *Is there any evidence for believing the world is round?* | *The report found no evidence of damage to crops by acid rain.* [+that] *There was some evidence that the documents had been tampered with.* | *The documents showed evidence of having been tampered with.* [+to-v] *There is some/insufficient evidence to suggest that he was there on the night of the murder.* | *The supposed murder weapon was produced in evidence at his trial.* 2 the answers given in a court of law: *The witness gave (her) evidence in a clear firm voice.* 3 **in evidence** present and able to be seen and noticed: *The police were much in evidence* (=very noticeable) *whenever the President appeared in public.* —see also QUEEN'S EVIDENCE

**ev-i-dent** /'evɪdənt/ *adj* [(to)] plain, esp. to the senses; clear because of evidence: *Despite her evident distress, she carried on working.* [+that] *It's evident (to me) that they have no experience in this work.* —see also SELF EVIDENT



**ev-i-dent-ly** /'evɪdəntli/ *adv* it is proved by clear signs (that); it is plain (that): *He is evidently not well.* —compare APPARENTLY, OBVIOUSLY

**e-vil**¹ /'i:vəl/ *adj* -ll- *BrE*||-l- *AmE* 1 *fml* not good morally; wicked; harmful: *The play is based on an evil king who lived in Saxony.* | *That woman has an evil tongue.* (=says bad things about people) 2 *infml* very unpleasant: *What an evil smell!* | *It was an evil night.* (=the weather was very bad) —**evilly** /'i:vəl-li/ *adv*

**evil**² *n* [C;U] *fml* 1 (a) great wickedness or misfortune: *We must conquer the twin evils of disease and poverty.* | *her usual speech about the evils of socialism* —see also NECESSARY EVIL 2 **hear no evil, see no evil, speak no evil** a phrase used when saying that a person does not hear, see, or say any bad things. The phrase is associated with the THREE WISE MONKEYS, three monkeys who are shown sitting together with one covering its ears, one covering its eyes, and one covering its mouth. —see also THREE WISE MONKEYS

**e-vil-do-er** /'i:vəl'du:ə/ *n fml* a person who does evil. This is a word only used by serious religious people

**evil eye** /ɪˈvɪl ˈaɪ/ *n* [the+S] (sometimes caps.) the supposed power to harm people by looking at them. In the past, it was believed that certain people had this power.

**e-vince** /ɪˈvɪns/ *v* [T] *fml* (of a person or their behaviour) to show (a feeling, quality, etc.) clearly; REVEAL

**e-vis-ce-rate** /ɪˈvɪsəreɪt/ *v* [T] *fml* or *tech* to cut out the bowels and other inside parts of the body from —compare CLEAN² (2)

**E-vi-ta** /eˈvɪtə/ a musical show about the life of Eva Peron the wife of a former Argentinian leader. One of the most famous songs from the show is *Don't Cry For Me, Argentina.*

**e-voc-a-tive** /ɪˈvɒkətɪv||ɪˈvɑː-/ *adj* [(of)] that produces memories and feelings: *The taste of the cakes was evocative of my childhood.* | *an evocative smell*

**e-voke** /ɪˈvəʊk/ *v* [T] *fml* to produce or call up (a memory or feeling, or its expression): *That old film evoked memories of my childhood.* —**evocation** /ɪˈvəʊkeɪʃən, ɪˈvəʊ-/ *n* [C;U]

**ev-o-lu-tion** /ɪˈvɒləʃən, ɪˈvə-||ɪˈvə-/ *n* [U] 1 (the scientific idea of) the gradual development of the various types of plants, animals, etc., from fewer and simpler forms: *In the course of evolution, some birds have lost the power of flight.*

► **CULTURAL NOTE** According to this idea man developed from other animals and is related to APES¹. Some religions do not accept this as being true. This idea was developed by Charles Darwin, who wrote about it in his book *On the Origin of Species*. —compare CREATIONISM ◀

2 gradual change and development: *the evolution of the modern motor car* | *the evolution of philosophical thought*

**ev-o-lu-tion-a-ry** /ɪˈvɒləʃənəri-, ɪˈvə-||ɪˈvələʃənəri-/ *adj* of or resulting from evolution; developing gradually

**e-volve** /ɪˈvɒlv||ɪˈvɑːlv/ *v* [I;T (from)] to develop gradually by a long continuous process: *Some people believe that we evolved from the apes.* | *The British political system has evolved over several centuries.* | *They evolved a new system for running the factory.* | *Language is constantly evolving.* | *folk music which evolved out of popular culture*

**ewe** /juː/ *n* a fully-grown female sheep —compare RAM¹ (1)

**ew-er** /'ju:ə/ *n* a large wide-mouthed container used in the past for liquid, esp. water for washing with

**Ew-ing** /'ju:ɪŋ/, J R see JR

**Ew-ings** /'ju:ɪŋz/ [the] a rich family who own an oil company in the American television programme *Dallas* —see also DALLAS, JR

**ex** /eks/ *n infml* someone's former wife, husband, girlfriend, or boyfriend: *I saw your ex the other day.*

**ex-** see WORD FORMATION

**ex-a-cer-bate** /ɪgˈzæsəbeɪt||-ər-/ *v* [T] *fml* to make (something bad) worse; AGGRAVATE: *The drugs they gave her only exacerbated the pain.* | *The border incident exacerbated East-West tension.* —**bation** /ɪgˈzæsəˈbeɪʃən||-sər-/ *n* [U]

**ex-act**¹ /ɪgˈzækt/ *adj* 1 correct in every detail; completely according to fact; PRECISE: *The exact time is three minutes and 35 seconds past two.* | *It's about two o'clock — three minutes and thirty-five seconds past, to be exact.* | *What*

*was the exact route that they took?* | *I don't know the exact terms of the agreement.* | *He entered the hall at the exact moment (=at the very same time) that the concert began.* 2 marked by thorough consideration or careful measurement of small details of fact: *You have to be very exact in this job, because a small mistake can make a big difference.* —see also EXACTLY — ~ness *n* [U]

**exact**² *v* [T (from)] *fml* to demand and obtain by force, threats, etc.: *I finally managed to exact a promise from them.*

**ex-act-ing** /ɪgˈzæktɪŋ/ *adj* (of a person or a piece of work) demanding much care, effort, and attention: *It was a day of exacting and tiring work.* | *exacting standards of safety* — ~ly *adv*

**ex-act-i-tude** /ɪgˈzæktɪtjuːd||-tuːd/ *n* [U] *fml* exactness

**ex-act-ly** /ɪgˈzæktli/ *adv* 1 (used with numbers and measures, and with **what**, **where**, **who**, etc.) with complete correctness: *Tell me exactly where she lives.* | *The train arrived at exactly eight o'clock.* (=neither earlier nor later) 2 (used for adding force to an expression) just; really; quite: *They were doing exactly the opposite to what I had told them.* 3 (used as a reply) quite right: “So you believe, minister, that we must spend more on education?” “Exactly.” 4 **not exactly**: a not really: *We weren't exactly driving fast.* | *He's not exactly (what you would call) stupid, but ...* b (as a reply) that is not altogether true: “So you missed the meeting.” “Not exactly. I got there five minutes before it finished.”

**ex-ag-ge-rate** /ɪgˈzædʒəreɪt/ *v* [I;T] to say or believe more than the truth about (something); make (something) seem larger, better, worse, etc., than it really is: *The machine is very useful, but he's exaggerating when he calls it the greatest invention ever made!* | *The seriousness of the situation has been much exaggerated in the press.* | *He has an exaggerated idea of his own importance.* —**ratedly** *adv* —**ration** /ɪgˈzædʒəˈreɪʃən/ *n* [C;U]: *To call it a mountain would be an exaggeration; it's more of a hill.* | *I can say without exaggeration that she's the most useful person in the company.*

**ex-alt** /ɪgˈzɔːlt/ *v* [T] *fml* 1 to praise (esp. God, a person, or their qualities) highly 2 to raise (a person) to a high rank —compare EXULT

**ex-al-ta-tion** /ɪgˈzɔːlˈteɪʃən, ɪksɔːl-/ *n* [U] *fml* or *lit* a very strong feeling of happiness, power, etc.

**ex-alt-ed** /ɪgˈzɔːltɪd/ *adj* 1 (of a person or their position) of high rank: *He felt very humble in such exalted company.* 2 *fml* or *lit* filled with exaltation — ~ly *adv*

**ex-am** /ɪgˈzæm/ *n* 1 also **examination** *fml*— a spoken or written test of knowledge: *Did you pass your history exam?* | *When will we know the exam results?* | *She failed her exams and she's going to have to take them again.* 2 *AmE, infml* a medical examination

**ex-am-i-na-tion** /ɪgˈzæmɪˈneɪʃən/ *n* 1 [C] *fml* an exam 2 [C;U] (an act of) examining: *Before we can offer you the job, you'll have to have/undergo a medical examination.* | *The examination of all the witnesses took a week.* | *The committee's proposals are still under examination.* (=being examined) —see also PHYSICAL²

**examination paper** /...¹... ˌ.../ *n fml* for PAPER¹ (3)

**ex-am-ine** /ɪgˈzæmɪn/ *v* [T] 1 to look at, inquire into, or consider (a person or thing) closely and carefully, in order to find out something: *The doctor examined her carefully.* | *My luggage was closely examined when I entered the country.* | *The police examined the room for fingerprints.* | *to examine accounts/evidence/economic policy* 2 [(on)] to ask (a person) questions in order to find out something, for example in a court of law: *The witness was examined on her relationship with the accused.* —see also CROSS-EXAMINE 3 [(in, on)] *fml* to test (a person's) knowledge by means of an exam: *You will be examined in French and German/on your knowledge of American history.* —**iner** *n*: *This candidate has failed to satisfy the examiners.* (=has not passed the exam)

**exam pa-per** /...¹... ˌ.../ *n* PAPER¹ (3)

**ex-am-ple** /ɪgˈzɑːmpəl||ɪgˈzæm-/ *n* 1 [(of)] something taken from a number of things of the same kind, which shows the usual quality of the rest or shows a general rule: *This church is a wonderful example/a classic example of medieval architecture.* | *You have said there are several suitable machines to do this job; can you give me any examples?* (=mention some types) 2 [(to)] *apprec* a



person, or a person's behaviour, that is worthy of being copied: *Mary's courage is an example to us all.* **3** [(to)] a piece of behaviour or way of acting that may be copied by other people: *She arrived at the office early, to set a good example to the others.* | *He followed his brother's example by setting up a small design agency.* **4** **for example** (abbrev. e.g.) here is one of the things or people just spoken of: *A lot of us want to leave now – Bill, for example/for example, Bill.* **5** **make an example of someone** to punish someone so that others will be afraid to behave as they did – see also **EXEMPLIFY**

▷ **USAGE** When we ourselves are an example to be copied, we **set an example**: *Drink your milk and set a good example to the other children!* When we invent an example to explain what we mean we **give an example**: *She talked about large animals and gave elephants as an example.* ◁

**ex-as-pe-rate** /ɪgˈzɑːspəreɪt/ || ɪgˈzæ-/ *v* [T usu. pass.] to annoy or make extremely angry, esp. by testing the patience of: *I was exasperated by/at all the delays.* —**ratedly** *adv* —**ration** /ɪgˈzɑːspəˈreɪʃən/ || ɪgˈzæ-/ *n* [U] : *In sheer exasperation, she gave the machine a kick.*

**ex-as-pe-ra-ting** /ɪgˈzɑːspəreɪtɪŋ/ || ɪgˈzæ-/ *adj* extremely annoying: *He's really a most exasperating man!* —**ratingly** *adv* : *exasperatingly slow*

**Ex-cal-i-bur** /ekˈskælɪbə/ King Arthur's sword – see **ARTHURIAN LEGEND**

**ex ca-the-dra** /ˌeks kəˈθiːdrə/ *adj, adv* Lat *fml*, often *derog* (of a statement or command) (made) by the official right of one's high office: *It shows contempt for the public to make these ex cathedra pronouncements without any previous discussion.*

**ex-ca-vate** /ˈekskeɪt/ *v* [I;T] **1** to make (a hole) by digging: *They plan to excavate a large hole before putting in the foundations.* **2** to uncover (something from an earlier time under the earth) by digging: *Schliemann excavated the ancient city of Troy.* —**vation** /ˈekskeɪˈveɪʃən/ *n* [C;U] : *The excavation of the buried city took a long time.* | *archaeological excavations*

**ex-ca-va-tor** /ˈekskeɪtə/ *n* **1** also **steam shovel** AmE – a large machine that digs and moves earth in a bucket at the end of a long arm **2** a person who excavates

**ex-ceed** /ɪkˈsiːd/ *v* [T] **1** to be greater than: *The cost will not exceed £50.* | *The cost of the damage exceeded (=was worse than) our worst fears.* | *The amount of money we raised exceeded all our expectations. (=was better than we had hoped for)* **2** *derog* to do more than (what is legal, necessary, etc.): *He was fined for exceeding (=driving faster than) the speed limit.*

**ex-ceed-ing-ly** /ɪkˈsiːdɪŋli/ *adv* extremely; to an unusual degree: *They were exceedingly kind to me.*

**ex-cel** /ɪkˈsel/ *v* -ll- [I;T (at, in) not in progressive forms] *fml* to be the best or better than: *When it comes to singing, she really excels.* | *He's never excelled at games. (=isn't very good at them)* | *What a marvellous meal, Jim! You've really excelled yourself. (=done even better than usual)*

**ex-cel-lence** /ˈeksələns/ *n* [U] the quality of being excellent: *the excellence of her cooking*

**Ex-cel-len-cy** /ˈeksələnsi/ *n* (used as a title for speaking to or about certain people of high rank in the state, for example an **AMBASSADOR**, or the church): *Good morning, Your Excellency.* | *His Excellency the Spanish Ambassador*

**ex-cel-lent** /ˈeksələnt/ *adj* extremely good; of very high quality: *Your examination results are excellent.* | *They are in excellent health.* | *The food was excellent.* | *an excellent idea* — ~ly *adv*

**except**<sup>1</sup> /ɪkˈsept/ *prep* not including; leaving out; but not: *Everyone was tired except John.* | *Everyone except John was tired.* | *I can take my holidays at any time except in August.* | *I know nothing about him except that he lives next door.* | *I know nothing about the accident except what I read in the paper.* | *You can't get credit except by making special arrangements with management.* — see **BESIDES** (**USAGE**), **BUT**<sup>2</sup> (**USAGE**)

**except**<sup>2</sup> *conj* **1** apart from: *I can do everything around the house except cook.* **2** *infml* but: *I would go, except it's too far.* **3** **except for**: a apart from; with the **EXCEPTION** of: *Except for one old lady, the bus was empty.* | *The road was empty except for a few cars.* **b** (only before nouns and

**PRONOUNS**) *except*: *Everyone was tired except for John.* | *Except for John, everyone was tired.* **c** if it were not for; but for (**BUT**): *She would have left her husband years ago except for the children.*

**except**<sup>3</sup> *v* [T (from)] *fml* to leave out from a number or group; not include: *You will all be punished; I can except no one.*

**ex-cept-ed** /ɪkˈseptɪd/ *adj* [after *n*] apart from; except for: *Everyone, John excepted, was tired.* | *John excepted, everyone was tired.* | *The people at this party are really boring – present company excepted, of course (=not including you).*

**ex-cept-ing** /ɪkˈseptɪŋ/ *prep* *except*: *He answered all the questions excepting the last one.* | *Dogs are not allowed in the shop, always excepting blind people's guide dogs. (=they are allowed)*

**ex-cep-tion** /ɪkˈsepʃən/ *n* [C;U(to)] **1** (a case of) excepting or being excepted: *You must answer all the questions without exception.* | *It's been very cold this month, but today's an exception.* | *an exception to the rule* | *We don't usually take cheques, but we'll make an exception in your case. (=we will accept your cheque)* | *This problem affects all European countries, and Britain is no exception.* **2** **take exception (to)** to be offended or made angry (by): *I took the greatest exception to his rude remarks.* **3** **with the exception of** *except*; apart from: *With the exception of John, everyone passed the exam.*

**ex-cep-tio-na-ble** /ɪkˈsepʃənəbəl/ *adj* *fml* likely to cause dislike or offence; **OBJECTIONABLE**: *That play is quite suitable for children to see; there's nothing exceptionable in it.* —opposite **unexceptionable**

**ex-cep-tion-al** /ɪkˈsepʃənəl/ *adj* *usu. apprec* unusual, esp. of unusually high quality, ability, etc.; being an exception: *All her children are clever, but the youngest girl is really exceptional. (=unusually clever)* | *It was an exceptional game.* | *The firemen showed exceptional bravery.* — ~ly /ɪkˈsepʃənəli/ *adv* : *exceptionally honest*

**ex-cerpt** /ˈeksɜːpt/ -3ːr-/ *n* [(from)] a piece taken from a book, speech, or musical work for copying, performing, etc.: *One of the Sunday newspapers is publishing excerpts from her new book.*

**ex-cess**<sup>1</sup> /ɪkˈses, ˈekses/ *n* [S;U (of)] **1** something more than is reasonable; more than a reasonable degree or amount: *There is an excess of violence in the film.* | *He drinks to excess.* **2** *fml* the fact of being, or an amount by which something is, greater than something else: *This year's profits were in excess of (=more than) a million pounds.*

**ex-cess**<sup>2</sup> /ˈekses/ *adj* [A] additional; more than is usual, allowed, etc.

**excess bag-gage** /ɪˌˌ ˈbæɡ-/ also **excess luggage** — *n* [U] a passenger's cases, bags, and boxes that are more than an **AIRLINE** will carry free

**ex-cess-es** /ɪkˈsesɪz/ *n* [P] actions so bad that they go beyond the limits of what is acceptable: *The government seemed unable to curb (=limit) the excesses of its secret police.* | *the excesses of war*

**ex-ces-sive** /ɪkˈsesɪv/ *adj* too much; too great; going beyond what is reasonable or right: *The prices at this hotel are excessive.* | *He takes an excessive interest in clothes.* — ~ly *adv*

**ex-change**<sup>1</sup> /ɪksˈtʃeɪndʒ/ *n* **1** [C;U] (a case of) the act of exchanging: *There was an exchange of political prisoners between the two countries.* | *He gave me an apple in exchange for a piece of cake.* | *We thought we'd do an exchange. She'll come over at Easter and I'll go there in the summer.* | *We're going to do an exchange. He'll have my bike and I'll take the car.* **2** [C] a **TELEPHONE EXCHANGE** **3** [C] (often *cap.*) a place where business people meet to buy and sell goods, shares, etc.: *They sell corn at the Corn Exchange, and company shares at the Stock Exchange.* **4** [C] a short period of fighting or talking between two people or groups: *Two soldiers were wounded in the exchange.* | *I had an acrimonious exchange with the manager.* — see also **FOREIGN EXCHANGE**, **JOB CENTRE**

**exchange**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T (for, with)] to give and receive in return (something of the same type or equal value): *The two teams exchanged presents before the game.* | *The battery I bought is the wrong size – I wonder if the shop will exchange it?* | *The fighters exchanged blows. (=hit each other)* | *I haven't seen him for years, though we exchange*



letters at Christmas. | *I exchanged seats with Bill.* (=I took his and he took mine) | *We move into the new house as soon as we have exchanged contracts.* (=the last stage of buying a house) | *Where can I exchange my dollars for pounds?* — ~able *adj*

**Exchange and Mart** /ɪks,tʃeɪndʒ ənd 'mɑ:t||-'mɑ:rt/ a British weekly national newspaper in which people advertise things such as cars which they want to sell, buy, or exchange

**exchange rate** /'ɛ.ɪ.ʃ.ə/ *n* the rate at which the money of one country is changed for that of another: *We keep an eye on local exchange rates to find out where it is cheapest to buy parts from.*

**exchange rate mech·a·nis·m** /'ɛ.ɪ.ʃ.ə.ɪ.ˌmɪ.ʒ.m/ *n* 1 [the] EUROPEAN EXCHANGE RATE MECHANISM 2 [C] any system for controlling the exchange rate between the money of one country and that of another country

**Ex-cheq·uer** /ɪks'tʃekə||'ekstʃekər/ [the] (in Britain) the government department that is responsible for the collection of taxes and the paying out of public money. It is part of the Treasury, whose chief minister is called the **Chancellor of the Exchequer** —compare TREASURY (1)

**ex·cise**¹ /'eksəɪz/ *n* [U] the government tax on certain goods produced and used inside a country —compare CUSTOMS (1)

**ex·cise**² /ɪk'saɪz/ *v* [T] *fml* to remove (as if) by cutting out: *The tumour was excised.* —compare AMPUTATE —**cision** /ɪk'sɪʒən/ *n* [C;U]

**ex·ci·ta·ble** /ɪk'saɪtəbəl/ *adj* *usu. derog* easily excited —**bility** /ɪk'saɪtə'bɪlɪti/ *n* [U]

**ex·cite** /ɪk'saɪt/ *v* [T] 1 to cause to lose calmness and have strong feelings, esp. of expectation and happiness: *Don't excite yourself! Relax!* | *The news of her arrival excited the crowd.* 2 *fml* to cause a person or people to have (a strong feeling): *The court case has excited a lot of public interest.*

**ex·cit·ed** /ɪk'saɪtɪd/ *adj* 1 full of strong feelings of expectation and happiness; not calm: *She's very excited about getting a part in the film.* | *The scientists are excited about the results of the experiment.* | *The excited children were opening their Christmas presents.* | (*infml*) *Their new record is nothing to get excited about.* (=not very good) 2 *esp. AmE, infml* ready for sex — ~ly *adv*

**ex·cite·ment** /ɪk'saɪtmənt/ *n* 1 [U] the state or quality of being excited: *He has a weak heart, and should avoid excitement.* 2 [C] an exciting event: *Life will seem very quiet after the excitements of our holiday.*

**ex·cit·ing** /ɪk'saɪtɪŋ/ *adj* causing excitement: *an exciting film/football match/new development* —opposite **unexcit·ing** — ~ly *adv*

**ex·claim** /ɪk'skleɪm/ *v* [I (at);T] *fml* to speak or say loudly and suddenly, because of surprise or other strong feeling: *She exclaimed in delight when she saw the presents.* | *He exclaimed at the size of the bill.* | "Good heavens!" he exclaimed. "It's six o'clock already."

**ex·cla·ma·tion** /'eksklə'meɪʃən/ *n* the word(s) expressing a sudden strong feeling: "Good heavens!" is an *exclamation* (of surprise).

**exclamation mark** /'ɛ.ɪ.ʃ.ə.ɪ.ˌmɑ:t/ *BrE* || **exclamation point** *AmE* — *n* a mark (!) written after the actual words of an exclamation, as in "I'm hungry!" she exclaimed. —see picture at PUNCTUATION MARK

**ex·clude** /ɪk'skluːd/ *v* [T], 1 [(from)] to keep or shut out: *People under 21 are excluded from (joining) the club.* 2 [(from)] to leave out from among the rest: *No one was excluded from sentry duty.* (=everyone did it) —opposite **in·clude** 3 to shut out (a reason or possibility) from the mind; not consider; REJECT: *We cannot exclude the possibility that his wife killed him.*

**ex·clud·ing** /ɪk'skluːdɪŋ/ *prep* not counting; not including: *There were thirty people in the hotel, excluding the hotel staff.* —opposite **includ·ing**

**ex·clu·sion** /ɪk'skluːʒən/ *n* [U (from)] 1 the act of excluding or fact of being excluded: *His exclusion from the negotiations infuriated the union.* 2 to the exclusion of so as to leave out (all other members of a group); and not: *He plays golf to the exclusion of all other sports.*

**exclusion zone** /'ɛ.ɪ.ʃ.ə.ɪ.ˌmɑ:t/ *n* a large area which the Government does not allow people to enter, either because it is

dangerous or for defence reasons: *a fifty-mile exclusion zone*

**ex·clu·sive**¹ /ɪk'skluːsɪv/ *adj* 1 that excludes people considered to be socially unsuitable and charges a lot of money: *one of London's most exclusive hotels* 2 [A] limited to one person, group, or organization; not shared with others: *This bathroom is for the President's exclusive use.* | *The reporter managed to get an exclusive interview with the Prime Minister.* 3 **exclusive of** not taking into account; without; excluding: *The hotel charges £6 a day, exclusive of meals.* —opposite **inclusive of** — ~ness *n* [U]

**exclusive**² *n* a newspaper story given to or printed by only one newspaper: *If you pay me £20,000, I'll give your paper the story as an exclusive.* —compare SCOOP¹ (3)

**ex·clu·sive·ly** /ɪk'skluːsɪvli/ *adv* only; and nothing/no one else: *This room is exclusively for women.* | *He writes exclusively for the Washington Post.*

**ex·com·mu·ni·cate** /'ekskmə'njuːnɪˌkeɪt/ *v* [T] (*esp. in the Roman Catholic Church*) to formally take away membership of the church from (someone) as a punishment —**cation** /'ekskmə'njuːnɪˌkeɪʃən/ *n* [C;U] : *The Church threatened them with excommunication.*

**ex·con** /'ɛ.ɪ.ʃ.ə.ɪ.ˌmɑ:t/ *n* *sl* a former prisoner

**ex·co·ri·ate** /ɪk'skɔːriət/ *v* [T] *fml* to express a very bad opinion of (a book, play, performance, etc.): *an excoriating review* —**ation** /ɪk'skɔːri'eɪʃən/ *n* [C;U]

**ex·cre·ment** /'ekskrɪmənt/ *n* [U] *fml* the solid waste matter passed from the body through the bowels

**ex·cres·cence** /ɪk'skresəns/ *n* *fml* an ugly growth on an animal or plant: (fig.) *In my opinion, the new museum extension is an excrescence.*

**ex·cre·ta** /ɪk'skriːtə/ *n* [P] *fml or tech* excrement or URINE (=liquid waste matter)

**ex·crete** /ɪk'skriːt/ *v* [I;T] *fml or tech* (of animals and humans) to pass out (waste matter esp. FAECES) from the body: *The skunk excretes a very powerful smell when it is frightened.* —compare SECRETE¹

**ex·cre·tion** /ɪk'skriːʃən/ *n* [C;U] *fml or tech* (the act of producing) excreta

**ex·cru·ci·at·ing** /ɪk'skruːʃiətɪŋ/ *adj* (of pain) extremely bad: *I've got an excruciating headache.* | (fig.) *an excruciating performance* — ~ly *adv*

**ex·cul·pate** /'eksklɪpeɪt/ *v* [T (from)] *fml* to free (someone) from blame; prove that (someone) has not done something wrong; EXONERATE —**pation** /'eksklɪ'peɪʃən/ *n* [U]

**ex·cur·sion** /ɪk'skɜːʃən||ɪk'skɜːrɜːʃən/ *n* a short journey made for pleasure, usu. by several people together: *We went on a day excursion* (=there and back in a day) *to Blackpool.* | *The travel company arranges excursions round the island.*

**ex·cu·sa·ble** /ɪk'skjuːzəbəl/ *adj* (of behaviour) that can be forgiven —opposite **inexcusable** —bly *adv*

**ex·cuse**¹ /ɪk'skjuːz/ *v* [T] 1 [(for)] to forgive (someone) for (a small fault): (used esp. as a polite way of saying one is sorry) *Please excuse my bad handwriting.* | *Please excuse me for opening your letter by mistake.* | *She excused his interruption.* 2 [*usu. in questions and negatives*] to make (bad behaviour) seem less bad, or harmless; JUSTIFY: *I don't think this excuses the government's neglect.* [+*v-ing*] *Nothing can excuse lying to your parents.* 3 [(from)] to free (someone) from a duty: *Can I be excused from football practice today?* [+*obj(i)+obj(d)*] (*esp. BrE*) *I was excused football practice because I had a cold.* 4 [*usu. pass.*] *euph* (said esp. by children at school) to give permission to (someone) to go to the TOILET: *May I be excused, miss?* 5 **Excuse me:** a (a polite expression used when starting to speak to a stranger, when one wants to get past a person, or when one disagrees with something they have said) *Forgive me: Excuse me, does this bus go to the station?* | *He pushed his way through the crowd, saying "Excuse me."* | *Excuse me, but you're completely wrong.* b *AmE for SORRY*²: *She said "Excuse me" when she stepped on my foot.* 6 **excuse oneself:** a to offer an excuse b to ask permission to be absent: *He excused himself from the party.* 7 **Excuse 'me!** also **Excuse me for living!**— *infml* (said humorously or angrily when really meaning that a complaint against you is very unreasonable and about nothing) *Forgive me: "You weren't very polite to your mother." "Well, excuse me — I'm not perfect!"*



"I wish you hadn't embarrassed me by telling those bad jokes." "Well, excuse me for living!"

▷ **USAGE** In British English, you say (I'm) **sorry** to a person if you accidentally touch them, or push against them, or get in their way (for example, if you step on someone's foot). You might also hear the rather old-fashioned expression **I beg your pardon**. In American English you say **Excuse me** ◀

**ex-cuse**<sup>2</sup> /ɪk'skjuːs/ *n* [C;U (for)] 1 the reason, whether true or untrue, given when asking to be forgiven for absence, wrong behaviour, a fault, etc.: *His excuse for being late was that he had missed the bus.* | *Stop making excuses!* | *I know it's poor work. I can only say by way of excuse/in excuse that I was ill at the time.* 2 a reason; JUSTIFICATION: *She loves giving parties, and does so whenever she can find an excuse.* (=e.g. a birthday, ANNIVERSARY, etc.) [+to-v] *trying to think of an excuse to leave* 3 **make one's/someone's excuses** to explain why one/someone is not doing something or for absence: *Please make my excuses at tomorrow's meeting—I've got too much work to do to come.*

▷ **USAGE** Compare **reason**, **excuse**, and **pretext**: *His reason for leaving early was that his wife was ill.* (=she really was ill) | *His excuse for leaving early was that his wife was ill.* (=he said she was ill, and this may or may not have been true) | *He left early on the pretext that his wife was ill.* (=she was not ill at all and he had another reason for leaving early) ◀

**ex-di-rec-to-ry** /ɪks daɪ'rektəri, dɪ-/ *BrE* || **unlisted AmE**—*adj* (of a telephone number) not in the telephone book: *I've decided to go ex-directory.* (=have my number removed from the telephone book)

▶ **CULTURAL NOTE** People may **go ex-directory** (= have their telephone number removed from the telephone book) if they are famous and want to protect their private life, or if they have been getting annoying telephone calls. ◀

**ex-e-cra-ble** /'eksɪkrəbəl/ *adj fml* extremely bad: *She has execrable manners.* —**bly** *adv*

**ex-e-crate** /'eksɪkreɪt/ *v* [T] *fml* to feel or express hatred of; curse —**cration** /'eksɪkreɪʃən/ *n* [C;U]

**ex-ec-u-tant** /ɪg'zekjʊtənt/ *n fml* a performer, esp. of musical pieces

**ex-e-cute** /'eksɪkjuːt/ *v* [T] 1 to kill (someone) as a lawful punishment: *She was executed for murder.* 2 *fml* to perform or do (an order, plan, or piece of work) completely: *The plan was good, but it was badly executed.* | *The house-to-house search was executed with military precision.* 3 *fml* to perform (music, dance steps, etc.) 4 *law* to carry out the orders in (a WILL<sup>2</sup> (5))

**ex-e-cu-tion** /'eksɪ'kjuːʃən/ *n* 1 [C;U] (a case of) lawful killing as a punishment: *Executions used to be held in public.* 2 [U (of)] *fml* the carrying out, performance, or completion of an order, plan, or piece of work: *The idea was never put/carried into execution.* 3 [U] *fml* skill in performing music: *The musician's execution was perfect, but he played without feeling.* 4 [U (of)] *law* the act of carrying out the orders in a WILL<sup>2</sup> (5)

**ex-e-cu-tion-er** /'eksɪ'kjuːʃənər/ *n* an official who executes criminals

**ex-ec-u-tive**<sup>1</sup> /ɪg'zekjʊtɪv/ *adj* [A] 1 concerned with making and carrying out decisions, esp. in business: *She has been given full executive powers in this matter.* 2 having the power to carry out government decisions and laws: *The executive branch carries out the laws which have been made by the politicians.* 3 of or for EXECUTIVES<sup>2</sup> (1): *Secretaries aren't allowed to use the executive dining room.* 4 desirable and expensive because of the high quality suitable for an executive

**executive**<sup>2</sup> *n* 1 [C] a person in an executive position, esp. in business: *a young advertising executive* 2 [the+S+sing./pl. v] the EXECUTIVE<sup>1</sup> (2) branch of government —compare JUDICIARY, LEGISLATURE

**executive car** /'... / *n* a car which is expensive but which an executive could afford and would be likely to buy

**executive house** /'... / *n* a modern house which costs more than average, but which an executive could afford and would be likely to buy

**executive hous-ing** /'... / *n* [U] executive houses

**executive jet** /'... / *n* a small JET plane for the use of an

important businessman or government official

**executive priv-i-lege** /'... / *n* *AmE* the right of the president or another government leader to keep the records of his office secret. In the US, during Watergate, the Supreme Court ruled that there are limits to executive privilege.

**executive suite** /'... / *n* a well furnished set of rooms in an office building for the use of an important businessman or government official

**ex-ec-u-tor** /ɪg'zekjʊtər/ *n* a person or bank that carries out the orders in someone's WILL<sup>2</sup> (5) after that person has died: *He appointed the bank to act as his executor.* | *Her son was one of the executors.*

**ex-e-ge-sis** /'eksɪ'dʒiːsɪs/ *n* -ses /sɪz/ [C;U] *tech* serious explanation after deep study, esp. of the Bible

**ex-em-plar** /ɪg'zemplər, -plɑːr/ *n fml* a good or typical example; MODEL<sup>1</sup> (5)

**ex-em-pla-ry** /ɪg'zempləri/ *n* 1 *apprec* suitable to be copied as an example: *Her behaviour was exemplary.* (=very good) 2 [A] *fml* intended to serve as a warning: *The heavy jail sentence was given partly as an exemplary punishment.* (=to warn other people) | **exemplary damages** (=money that the court makes someone pay as a warning not to cause damage to someone else's good name)

**ex-em-pli-fy** /ɪg'zemplɪfaɪ/ *v* [T] 1 to be an example of: *Her pictures nicely exemplify the sort of painting that was being done at that period.* 2 to give an example of: *In this dictionary we often exemplify the use of a word.* —**fication** /ɪg'zemplɪfɪ'keɪʃən/ *n* [C;U]

**ex-empt**<sup>1</sup> /ɪg'zempt/ *adj* [F (from)] freed from a duty, service, payment, etc.: *He is exempt from military service* | *tax-exempt investments*

**exempt**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T (from)] to make (someone or something) exempt: *He was exempted from military service because of bad health.* — **~ion** /ɪg'zemptʃən/ *n* [C;U (from)] : exemption from military service

**ex-er-cise**<sup>1</sup> /'eksəsaɪz-ər-/ *n* 1 [C;U] (a) use of any part of the body or mind so as to strengthen and improve it: *If you don't take/get more exercise you'll get fat.* | *She does exercises to strengthen her voice.* 2 [C] a question or set of questions to be answered by a student for practice: *Look at Exercise 17 in your book.* 3 [C] a set of actions carried out by soldiers, naval ships, etc., in time of peace to practise fighting: *The soldiers are here for a NATO exercise.* 4 [S (in)] any set of actions, esp. when intended to have a particular effect: *Getting this report done in such a short time was quite a difficult exercise.* | *After the President's embarrassing remark, his staff had to stage an exercise in damage limitation.* (=try to limit the damage he had done) 5 [S; U (of)] *fml* the use of a (stated) power or right: *Expelling him from the club was a legitimate exercise of the committee's authority.*

**exercise**<sup>2</sup> *v* 1 [I;T] to (cause to) take exercise: *You're getting fat; you should exercise more.* | *She was exercising her horse in the park.* 2 [T] *fml* to use (a power, right, or quality): *The judge thought it appropriate to exercise leniency in passing sentence.* | *to exercise caution/restraint* 3 [T (by, about) usu. pass.] *fml* to trouble (a person or their mind): *I've been greatly exercised about what we ought to do.*

**exercise bike** /'... / *n* a machine like a bicycle which does not move along which people can use indoors to get exercise and be healthy

**ex-ert** /ɪg'zɜːt/-ɜːrt/ *v* [T] 1 to use (strength, skill, etc.) to gain a desired result; APPLY (2): *She couldn't open the door, even by exerting all her strength.* | *The company has been exerting pressure on me to get another qualification.* | *to exert one's influence* 2 **exert oneself** to make a great effort: *She can run 100 metres in 13 seconds without unduly exerting herself.* | *He never exerts himself to help anyone.*

**ex-er-tion** /ɪg'zɜːʃən/-ɜːr-/ *n* [C;U] (a case of) exerting oneself; (an) effort: *I was really tired after all my exertions.*

**Ex-e-ter** /'eksɪtər/ a city in Devon in SW England, where local government for the county of Devon is based

**ex-e-unt** /'eksɪənt/ *v* *pl.* of EXT<sup>3</sup>

**ex gra-tia** /'eks 'greɪʃə/ *adj* *Lat* (of a payment) made as a favour, not because one has a legal duty to do it: *The*



company refused to accept responsibility for the accident, but gave me £10,000 as an *ex gratia* payment.

**ex-hale** /eks'hail/ *v* [I;T] to breathe out (air, gas, etc.): *Breathe in deeply and then exhale slowly.* | *He lit his pipe and exhaled clouds of smoke.* —opposite **inhale** —**halation** /,ekshə'leɪʃən/ *n* [U]

**ex-haust**<sup>1</sup> /ɪg'zɔ:st/ *v* [T] 1 to tire out: *What an exhausting day!* | *I'm completely exhausted.* 2 to use up completely: *We had exhausted our supply of oxygen.* | *My patience is exhausted.* | (fig.) *We've exhausted this subject (=finished this conversation): let's go on to the next.* —**ion** /ɪg'zɔ:stʃən/ *n* [U]: *She ran and ran until she dropped from exhaustion.* | *The mine was closed owing to exhaustion.* (=there was no more coal left)

**exhaust**<sup>2</sup> *n* 1 [C] also **exhaust pipe** /-ˈ-/, **tail pipe** *AmE*—the pipe which allows unwanted gas, steam, etc., to escape from an engine or machine 2 [U] the gas or steam which escapes through this pipe

**ex-haus-tive** /ɪg'zɔ:stɪv/ *adj* thorough; including all cases or possibilities: *After an exhaustive search the missing document was found.* | *exhaustive inquiries* —**ly** *adv* —**ness** *n* [U]

**ex-hib-it**<sup>1</sup> /ɪg'zɪbɪt/ *v* 1 [I;T] to show (something) in public: *The new cars were proudly exhibited in the showroom window.* | *She has exhibited (her paintings) in Paris.* 2 [T] *fml* to give a sign of (a feeling, quality, etc.); show: *The negotiating team exhibited no emotion when they heard the offer.*

**exhibit**<sup>2</sup> *n* 1 something or a set of things exhibited, esp. in a MUSEUM: *Many of the exhibits were flown here from Canada.* 2 something brought into a law court to prove the truth: *Exhibit A was the murder weapon.* 3 *AmE* for EXHIBITION (1)

**ex-hi-bi-tion** /,eksɪ'bɪʃən/ *n* 1 [(of)] a public show of objects: *an international trade exhibition* | *to put on/stage/mount an exhibition of French paintings* | *The newly discovered Greek sculpture is now on exhibition at the national museum.* | *exhibition halls* 2 [(of)] an act of exhibiting: *a disgraceful exhibition of bad temper* 3 a piece of foolish behaviour: *Get up off the floor and stop making such an exhibition of yourself.* (=behaving so foolishly)

**ex-hi-bi-tion-is-m** /,eksɪ'bɪʃənɪzəm/ *n* [U] often *derog* behaviour intended to attract attention to oneself and often to shock people. Forms of exhibitionism include taking your clothes off in public or dressing in a way that most people find very odd. —**ist** *n* —**istic** /,eksɪbɪʃə'nɪstɪk/ *adj*

**ex-hib-i-tor** /ɪg'zɪbɪtə/ *n* a person, firm, etc., that exhibits something: *All exhibitors must remove their displays before eight o'clock.*

**ex-hil-a-rate** /ɪg'zɪləreɪt/ *v* [T] to make (someone) cheerful and excited: *I was exhilarated by my ride in the sports car.* | *This sea air is most exhilarating.* —**ratingly** *adv* —**ration** /ɪg,zɪlə'reɪʃən/ *n* [U]

**ex-hort** /ɪg'zɔ:t/ *v* [T] *fml* to urge or advise strongly: [+obj+to-v] *The general exhorted his men to fight bravely.* —**ation** /,eksɔ:'teɪʃən/ *n* [C;U]: *In spite of all my exhortations, they went ahead with the plan.*

**ex-hume** /ɪg'zju:m, eks'hju:m/ *v* [T] *fml* to take (a dead body) out of the grave —**humation** /,eksju'meɪʃən/ *n* [C;U]: *The coroner issued an exhumation order.*

**ex-i-gen-cy** /'eksɪdʒənsi, ɪg'zɪ-/ also **ex-i-gence** /'eksɪdʒəns, 'egzɪ-/ *n* [often *pl.*] *fml* an urgent need; a difficult situation in which one must act without delay: *The exigencies of the situation demanded that we take immediate action.*

**ex-i-gent** /'eksɪdʒənt/ *adj fml* 1 needing quick action or help; urgent 2 demanding or expecting more than is reasonable from others

**ex-ig-u-ous** /ɪg'zɪɡuəs/ *adj fml* too small in amount; not enough —**ly** *adv* —**ness** *n* [U]

**ex-ile**<sup>1</sup> /'eksail, 'egzail/ *n* 1 [S;U] forced or unwanted absence from one's country, often for political reasons: *Napoleon was sent into exile.* | *He had a long exile on St Helena.* | *an opponent of the government in self-imposed exile* 2 [C] someone who has left or been forced to leave their country, esp. for political reasons or reasons connected with money: *a political exile* | *a tax exile*

**exile**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T (to)] to send (someone) into exile: *They exiled Napoleon to St Helena.* —compare BANISH

**ex-ist** /ɪg'zɪst/ *v* [I] 1 to live or be real; have been: *The technology for performing these operations already exists.* | *The Roman Empire existed for several centuries.* | *The two sides have reached a partial agreement, but several differences still exist between them.* 2 [(on)] (of a person) to continue to live, esp. with difficulty: *They're paid hardly enough to exist on.* | *She exists on tea and bread.*

**ex-ist-ence** /ɪg'zɪstəns/ *n* 1 [U] the state of existing: *Harry doesn't believe in the existence of God.* | *This law came into existence in 1918/has been in existence since 1918.* 2 [S] life; way of living: *She led/had a miserable existence.*

**ex-ist-ent** /ɪg'zɪstənt/ *adj* (still) existing: *This is the only copy of his book now existent.* —opposite **nonexistent**

**ex-is-ten-tial** /,egzɪ'stenʃəl-/ *adj* related to existence or existentialism: *"There is no God" is an existential statement.*

**ex-is-ten-tial-is-m** /,egzɪ'stenʃəlɪzəm/ *n* [U] the modern belief and teaching of Kierkegaard, Sartre, Heidegger, etc., that people are alone in a meaningless world, that they are completely free to choose their actions, and that their actions determine their nature rather than the other way round —**ist** *adj, n*: *an existentialist philosopher*

**ex-ist-ing** /ɪg'zɪstɪŋ/ *adj* [A] present: *Under existing regulations, you are not allowed to bring animals into the country.* | *Human rights are not tolerated under the existing regime.*

**ex-it**<sup>1</sup> /'egzɪt, 'eksɪt/ *n* [(from)] 1 (often written over or on a door) a way out: *How many exits are there from this cinema?* | *a fire exit* 2 an act of leaving: *He made a quick exit when he heard the police coming.*

**exit**<sup>2</sup> *v* [I] (of a person) to go out; leave: *She exited pretty quickly when she heard him arriving.*

**exit**<sup>3</sup> *v pl. exeunt* /'eksɪənt/ [I] *Lat* (used as a stage direction in printed copies of plays) goes out; goes off stage: *Exit Hamlet, bearing the body of Polonius.*

▷ **USAGE** In stage directions, **exit** and **exeunt** come before the subject. **Exit** does not take "s" in the 3rd person singular. ◁

**EXIT** /'egzɪt, 'eksɪt/ a British organization which aims to change the law against helping seriously ill people to die if they wish to. The organization gives advice to such people and their families. The Hemlock Society is a similar organization in the US. —see also EUTHANASIA

**exit poll** /'.., / *n* a process of asking people how they have voted in an election immediately after they have voted in order to discover the likely result of the election

**exit vi-sa** /'.., / *n* official permission (usu. in the form of a stamp in one's PASSPORT or a document) needed in some countries in order to leave the country legally

**Ex-moor** /'eksmuə/ a large area of open country (MOORLAND) in Devon and Somerset in SW England. Exmoor is a NATIONAL PARK and is known for its wild ponies (PONY). It is generally considered to be a beautiful area of British countryside and it is popular with holiday-makers and visitors to Britain.

**Exmoor po-ny** /'.., / *n* a type of PONY (=small horse) coming from the Exmoor area, with a brown coat, short ears, and large eyes

**Ex-o-cet mis-sile** /,eksəuset 'mɪsail/-'mɪsəl/ *n tdmk* a type of explosive weapon that is guided by RADAR to hit distant objects or places

**ex-o-dus** /'eksədəs/ *n* [S (from)] a going out or leaving by a great number of people: *Every fine weekend there is a general exodus of cars from the city to the country.*

**Exodus** the second book of the Bible which tells the story of the Exodus, the journey out of Egypt to the Promised Land made by Moses and the JEWS

**ex of-fi-ci-o** /,eks ə'fɪʃiəʊ/ *adj, adv Lat* because of one's position: *The president is an ex officio member of the committee.* (=because he is the president)

**ex-og-a-my** /ek'sɒɡəmi/ *n* [U] *tech* the practice of marrying outside one's own group, esp. as demanded by custom or law —**mous** *adj*

**ex-on-e-rate** /ɪg'zɒnəreɪt/ *v* [T (from)] to free (someone) from blame; decide that (someone) is not guilty: *The report on the accident exonerates the company (from any responsibility).* —**ration** /ɪg,zɒnə'reɪʃən/ *n* [U]

**ex-or-bi-tant** /ɪg'zɔ:bɪtənt/ *adj* (of costs, amounts,



demands, etc.) much greater than is reasonable, usual, or expected: *The hotel charges exorbitant prices.* | *The job makes exorbitant demands upon my time.* — *~ly adv*  
— *tance n* [U]

**ex-or-cis-m** /'eksɔːsɪzəm/ -ɔːr-/ *n* [C;U] an act or the art of exorcizing — *cist n*

**Exorcist** /'eksɔːsɪst/ -ɔːr-/ *The* an American book which was written in the 1960s and later became a film. It tells the story of a young girl who behaves very strangely after Satan begins to live in her body.

**ex-or-cize** also **-cise** *BrE* /'eksɔːsaɪz/ -ɔːr-/ *v* [T] **1** to drive out (an evil spirit) from (a person or place) by solemn command: *They called in a priest to exorcize the ghost/the house.* **2** to get rid of (esp. a bad thought or feeling): *He could not exorcize the memory of the car crash.*

**ex-ot-ic** /ɪg'zɒtɪk/ -ɪg'zɑː-/ *adj usu.* apprec excitingly different, strange, or unusual; (as if) from a distant and esp. tropical country: *exotic flowers/food/smells* | *an exotic dress* — *~ally* /kli/ *adv*

**ex-ot-ic-a** /ɪg'zɒtɪkə/ -ɪg'zɑː-/ *n* [P] things that are excitingly different or unusual, esp. works of art, literature, etc.: *musical exotica*

**ex-pand** /ɪk'spænd/ *v* **1** [I;T] to increase in size, number, VOLUME, degree, etc.; (cause to) grow larger: *Water expands when it freezes.* | *The company has expanded its operations in Scotland by building a new factory there.* | *the rapidly expanding market for computers* — *opposite contract* **2** [I (on);T] to make (a story, argument, etc.) more detailed by addition; ENLARGE (on): *I don't quite follow your reasoning. Can you expand (on it)?* | *You'll have to expand your argument if you want to convince me.* **3** [I] (of a person) to become more friendly and willing to talk: *He expanded a little when he had had a drink, and started to talk more freely.* — *~able adj*

**ex-panse** /ɪk'spæns/ also **expanses** *pl.* — *n* [S+of] a wide space spreading in all directions: *We gazed out over the limitless expanse/expanses of the desert.*

**ex-pan-sion** /ɪk'spænjən/ *n* **1** [U] the act or process of expanding or being expanded: *Metals undergo expansion when heated.* | *The new factory is large, to allow room for expansion.* | *the company's expansion into new markets* **2** [C] something which has been expanded: *His book is an expansion of the play he wrote before.*

**ex-pan-sion-a-ry** /ɪk'spænjənəri/ -nəri/ *adj* showing or causing expansion, esp. causing an expansion in business activity: *an expansionary monetary policy*

**ex-pan-sion-is-m** /ɪk'spænjənɪzəm/ *n* [U] *usu. derog* the intention of expanding one's land, influence, etc.: *The country's leaders were accused of territorial expansionism.* — *ist n, adj*

**ex-pan-sive** /ɪk'spænsɪv/ *adj* **1** (of a person) friendly and willing to talk: *After she'd had a few drinks, Mary became very expansive.* **2** large and splendid — *~ly adv*: *"£100 each? I'll take twenty," he said expansively.* — *~ness n* [U]

**ex-pat** /'eks'pæt/ *n infml, abbrev.* for *expatriate*: *The coast is crawling with expats!*

**ex-pa-ti-ate** /ɪk'speɪʃiət/ *v*

**expatriate on/upon** sthg. *phr v* [T] *fml* to speak or write a lot or in detail about

**ex-pat-ri-ate**<sup>1</sup> /eks'pætriət, -triət/ -eks'peɪ-/ also **expat** *infml* — *n* a person living in a foreign country

► **CULTURAL NOTE** This is a word used to describe someone who will never really be part of the society in the country where they live, and who is likely to return home after a certain period. Expatriates often go abroad to work for a certain length of time. British expatriates pay less tax than other British citizens. There is a **STEREOTYPE** of a British expatriate as living a lazy life in a sunny place and drinking a lot of **GIN** (= a kind of alcoholic drink) with other British expatriates. ◀

**ex-pat-ri-ate**<sup>2</sup> /eks'pætriət/ -eks'peɪ-/ *v* [T] *fml* to cause (a person) to leave their own country by force or legal power; **EXILE** — *compare REPATRIATE*

**ex-pect** /ɪk'spekt/ *v* [T] **1** [*obj*] to think or believe (that something will happen): [*+(that)*] *I expect (that) she'll pass the exam.* [*+(to-v)*] *He expects to fail the exam.* [*+(obj+to-v)*] *I expect him to fail the exam.* | *We weren't expecting so many people to come to the party.* | *I half expected to see her there but maybe she was too busy to come.* | *I fully expected to see them — they come every year.* | *They are ex-*

*pected to make an announcement later on today.* | *It wasn't as hot as I expected.* (=I thought it would be hotter) | *"Will she come soon?" "I expect so/I expect not."* **2** to think or consider that (something or someone) is likely to come or happen: *"He failed his exam." "But what else did you expect?"* | *I'm expecting a letter.* | *I expect John home at six o'clock.* | *I'm expecting John at any minute now.* | *His weakness after the illness is (only) to be expected.* (=is quite usual) | *She's expecting a baby.* (=is PREGNANT) | *She's expecting a baby in June.* (=will give birth in June) — *see also EXPECTING* **3** [(from)] to have or express a strong wish for (something) or that (someone) will do something, with the feeling that this is reasonable or necessary: *The general expects complete obedience from his men.* [*+(obj+to-v)*] *You can't expect children to be quiet all the time.* | (in polite requests) *Patrons are expected to vacate their rooms by midday.* **4** [*+(that)*; *obj*; *not in progressive forms*] *infml* to suppose; think (that something is true): *"Who broke that cup?" "I expect it was the cat."*

► **USAGE** Compare **expect**, **look forward to**, and **hope**. If you **expect** something, you think that it will happen: *We're expecting a visit from Bill this summer.* | *I expect the train will be late, as usual.* If you **look forward to** something, you think that it will happen, and feel happy as a result: *I'm really looking forward to the holidays.* | *I'm looking forward to meeting her.* If you **hope** for something, you want it to happen and you think there is a possibility that it might happen: *We're all hoping for fine weather.* | *I hope (that) the weather will be fine for the match.* — *see also ANTICIPATE (USAGE), WAIT (USAGE)* ◀

**expect** sthg. of sbdy./sthg. *phr v* [T] to hope or think it likely that (someone or something) will be or do (something): *There's no need to give me the money; I don't expect it of you.* | *I wouldn't have expected such rudeness of her.* (=I would not have thought she would be so rude) | *Don't expect too much of his idea.* (=don't think it likely to be good)

**ex-pec-tan-cy** /ɪk'spektənsi/ *n* [U] hope; the state of expecting: *We waited for the announcement in a state of happy expectancy.* — *see also LIFE EXPECTANCY*

**ex-pec-tant** /ɪk'spektənt/ *adj* **1** waiting hopefully: *The expectant crowds waited patiently for the queen.* **2** [A *no comp.*] PREGNANT: *a clinic for expectant mothers* — *~ly adv*: *They waited expectantly.*

**ex-pec-ta-tion** /'ekspektə'ʃən/ *n* [C;U] the act of expecting or something that is expected: *He has little expectation of passing the exam.* (=does not expect to pass) | *We thought Mary would pass, but against/contrary to (all) expectation(s), she didn't.* | *We thought John would do well, but he has succeeded beyond expectation/our expectations.* | *They closed the windows in expectation of (=because they expected) rain.* | *I usually enjoy his films, but that one didn't come up to/live up to my expectations.* (=was not as good as I expected)

**expectation of life** /... .. ɪ/ *n* [C;U] **LIFE EXPECTANCY**

**ex-pec-ting** /ɪk'spektɪŋ/ *adj* [F] *infml, euph* for PREGNANT; a word used esp. in speech: *My wife's expecting again.*

**ex-pec-to-rant** /ɪk'spektərənt/ *n* a type of cough medicine that helps to get rid of **PHLEGM**

**ex-pec-to-rate** /ɪk'spektəreɪt/ *v* [I] *tech or euph* to force liquid from the mouth; **SPIT**

**ex-pe-di-ent**<sup>1</sup> /ɪk'spiːdiənt/ *adj* (of a course of action) useful or helpful for a purpose, esp. one's own purpose or advantage, although not necessarily morally correct: *She thought it expedient not to tell her mother where she had been.* — *opposite inexpedient* — *~ly adv* — *-ency, -ence n* [U]: *The government will not condemn its allies for torturing prisoners. It is a question of expediency.* (=it is not to the government's advantage to do so) | *His behaviour seems to be governed solely by expediency.*

**expedient**<sup>2</sup> *n* a useful plan, idea, or action, esp. one thought of in a hurry because of an urgent need: *As she had forgotten her keys, she got into the house by the simple expedient of climbing through a window.*

**ex-pe-dite** /'ekspɪdaɪt/ *v* [T] *fml* to make (a plan or arrangement) go faster: *We appealed to the government to expedite the procedure for the release of the prisoners.*

**ex-pe-di-tion** /'ekspɪ'dɪʃən/ *n* **1** [C+*sing./pl.*] *v* (the people, vehicles, etc., going on) a (long) journey for a certain



purpose: *I'm sending/taking part in/going on an expedition to photograph wild animals in Africa.* | *an expedition to the North Pole* **2** [U] *fml* the quality of being expeditious

**ex-pe-di-tion-a-ry** /ˌɛkspəˈdɪʃənəri/ *adj* [A] of or being an army sent abroad to fight: *The British Expeditionary Force went to France in 1914.*

**ex-pe-di-tious** /ˌɛkspəˈdɪʃəs/ *adj fml* (of people or their actions) quick and without delay — *~ly adv*

**ex-pel** /ɪkˈspɛl/ *v* -ll- [T (from)] **1** to send away by force, esp. from a country; force to leave: *After the outbreak of fighting, all foreign journalists were expelled.* **2** to dismiss officially from a school, club, etc.. People are usu. expelled for breaking the rules by behaving in a way which is completely unacceptable: *If I catch you smoking in the school grounds again, you'll be expelled.* **3 fml** to force out from the body or a container: *She expelled the air from her lungs.* —see also **EXPULSION**

**ex-pend** /ɪkˈspend/ *v* [T (in, on)] to spend or use up (esp. time, care, effort, etc.): *Don't expend all your energy on such a useless job.*

**ex-pen-da-ble** /ɪkˈspendəbəl/ *adj* that may be used up for a purpose: *The officer regarded his soldiers as expendable.* (=did not mind if they were killed)

**ex-pen-di-ture** /ɪkˈspendɪtʃər/ *n* [S;U (of, on)] spending or using up: *Government expenditure on education is rising.* —compare **INCOME**

**ex-pense** /ɪkˈspens/ *n* [S;U] **1** cost in money, time or effort: *I don't know how the government can justify the expense of the project.* | *It's too much of an expense to own a car.* | **At great expense** (=by paying a lot of money) *I was finally able to buy the painting.* | *She spared no expense/went to a lot of expense* (=spent a lot of money) *to make the wedding a success.* | *I don't want to put you to the expense of* (=make you pay for) *buying me dinner.* | (fig.) *He finished the job at the expense of* (=causing the loss of) *his health.* **2 at someone's expense:** **a** with someone paying the cost: *He had his book printed at his own expense.* **b** (esp. of a joke or trick) against someone, so as to make them seem silly: *He tried to be clever at my expense.* —see also **EXPENSES**

**expense ac-count** /ˌɛkspensəˈkaʊnt/ *n* a record of money spent in travel, hotels, etc., in the course of one's work, which will be paid by one's employer: *I'm on an expense account.* (=have the cost of food, travel, etc., paid by my employer) | *expense-account lunches*

**ex-pens-es** /ɪkˈspensɪz/ *n* [P] the money used or needed for a purpose, often money paid by an employer for travel costs, etc. which people have as part of their job: *Her company sent her to Paris and paid all her expenses.* | *She was sent to Paris, all expenses paid.* | *travelling/holiday/funeral expenses* | *I didn't pay for the train fare — it was on expenses.*

**ex-pen-sive** /ɪkˈspensɪv/ *adj* costing a lot of money, esp. in relation to the amount of money a buyer has or to other things of a similar kind: *Your fur coat looks expensive/must have been expensive.* | *a very expensive watch/present* | (fig.) *Letting that goal in was an expensive mistake. It cost us the championship.* — *~ly adv*

**ex-pe-ri-ence** /ɪkˈspɪəriəns/ *n* **1** [U (of)] (the gaining of) knowledge or skill which comes from practice in an activity or doing something for a long time, rather than from books: *How many years' experience do you have of teaching English?* | *Don't correct him all the time — he'll learn by experience.* | *I know from my own experience how difficult this kind of work can be.* **2** [C] something that happens to one and has an effect on the mind and feelings: *Our journey by camel was quite an experience!* | *a fascinating/traumatic/humiliating experience*

**experience** <sup>2</sup> *v* [T] to feel, suffer, or learn by (an) experience: *For the first time, we experienced defeat.* | *I experienced great difficulty in getting a visa to leave the country.* | *Our country has experienced great changes in the last 30 years.*

**ex-pe-ri-enced** /ɪkˈspɪəriənst/ *adj* [(at, in)] often apprec having skill or knowledge as a result of much experience: *She's a very experienced traveller.* (=has travelled a lot) | *an experienced lawyer* | *She's very experienced at/in repairing cars.*

**ex-per-i-en-tial** /ɪkˌspɪəriˈenʃəl/ *adj fml* based on experience; **EMPIRICAL** — *~ly adv*

**ex-per-i-ment** <sup>1</sup> /ɪkˈspɛrɪmənt/ *n* [C (on);U] (a) trial made in order to learn something or prove the truth of an idea: *They did/carried out/performed an experiment on the monkey to test the new drug.* | *We hope to find the answer to this problem by experiment.* | *an economic/social experiment*

**ex-per-i-ment** <sup>2</sup> /ɪkˈspɛrɪmənt/ *v* [I (on, with)] to do an experiment: *Is it right to experiment on animals?* | *They experimented with the new materials.* | *We found the right fuel mixture by experimenting.*

**ex-per-i-men-tal** /ɪkˌspɛrɪˈmentl/ *adj* used for or connected with experiments: *an experimental farm* | *This version is purely experimental, but we hope to have a commercial model soon.* — *~ly adv*

**ex-pe-ri-men-ta-tion** /ɪkˌspɛrɪmenˈteɪʃən/ *n* [U] the making of experiments: *After much experimentation they discovered how to split the atom.*

**ex-pert** /ˈɛkspɜːt/ *n, adj* [(at, in, on)] (a person) with special skill or knowledge which comes from experience or training: *a medical/scientific/economic expert* | *She's (an) expert at/in/on teaching small children.* | *He's expert at hiding his feelings.* | *an expert card-player* — *~ly adv* — *~ness n* [U]

**ex-per-tise** /ˌɛkspɜːˈtiːz/ *n* [U] skill in a particular field; **KNOW-HOW:** *His business expertise will be of great help to us.* | *She displayed considerable expertise in bringing the horse under control.*

**expert sys-tem** /ˌɛkspɜːtˈsɪstəm/ *n* a computer system which contains information on a particular subject and is intended to find the answers to problems in a similar way to the human brain —compare **ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE**

**ex-pi-ate** /ˈɛkspieɪt/ *v* [T] *fml* to pay for or make up for (a crime or wicked action) by accepting punishment readily and by doing something to show that one is sorry —**ation** /ˌɛkspieɪˈeɪʃən/ *n* [U]

**ex-pire** /ɪkˈspaɪər/ *v* [I] **1** (of something which lasts for a period of time) to come to an end; run out: *The trade agreement between the two countries will expire next year.* | *The car broke down two days after the guarantee had expired.* **2** *lit* to die

**ex-pir-y** /ɪkˈspaɪəri/ also **ex-pi-ra-tion** /ˌɛkspɪˈreɪʃən/ *n* [U] the end of something which lasts for a period of time: *What's the expiry date on the spare film?* (=date before which it will be good to use) | *The President can be elected again at/on the expiration of his first four years in office.*

**ex-plain** /ɪkˈspleɪn/ *v* **1** [I;T (to)] to make (something) clear or easy to understand, usu. by speaking or writing: *I don't understand this, but Paul will explain.* | *The lawyer explained the new law (to us).* [+wh-] *John explained how it worked with a diagram.* | *Can you explain what this word means?* [(+that)] *He couldn't see how it worked until I explained that you had to turn it on first.* **2** [T] to give or be the reason for; account for: *Can you explain your brother's behaviour?* [(+wh-)] *That explains why she's not here.* **3 explain oneself:** **a** to make one's meaning clear: *I don't understand what you're talking about. Would you explain yourself further?* **b** to give reasons for one's behaviour: *Late again, Smith? I hope you can explain yourself!*

**explain sthg.** ↔ **away phr v** [T] to avoid blame for or cause to seem unimportant by giving an explanation or excuse: *The government will find it difficult to explain away the latest unemployment figures.*

**ex-pla-na-tion** /ˌɛkspləˈneɪʃən/ *n* [C;U (of, for)] **1** (an act of) explaining: *She's written an explanation of how the system works.* | *He gave/offered no explanation for his absence.* **2** something that explains: *The only explanation of/for his strange behaviour is that he's been working too hard.* | *He said, in explanation of his remarks, that the newspapers hadn't quoted him fully.* [(+that)] *His explanation that he had been held up by the traffic didn't seem very plausible.*

**ex-plan-a-to-ry** /ɪkˈsplænətəri/ *adj* (of a statement, a piece of writing, etc.) intended to explain: *There are some explanatory notes at the end of the chapter.* —see also **SELF-EXPLANATORY**

**ex-ple-tive** /ɪkˈsplɪtɪv/ *n* **1 fml** an often meaningless word used for swearing, to express violent feeling; **OATH** or **curse:** *He let loose a string of expletives.* (=he said a lot of swear words) **2 expletive deleted** a swear word has been removed from a written document.



This phrase became well known at the time of WATERGATE when written documents of the conversations of President Nixon were read aloud.

**ex-pli-ca-ble** /ek'splɪkəbəl/ *adj* [F] *fml* (of behaviour or events) that can be explained: *Her behaviour is explicable if you consider her youth.* —opposite **inexplicable** —*bly adv*

**ex-pli-cate** /'eksplɪkeɪt/ *v* [T] *fml* to explain (esp. a work of literature) in detail

**ex-pli-cit** /ɪk'splɪsɪt/ *adj* **1** (of a statement, rule, etc.) clear and fully expressed: *I gave you explicit instructions not to tamper with the controls.* —compare **IMPLICIT** **2** with full details; **GRAPHIC**: *There are several sexually explicit scenes in the film.* —*ly adv*: *They were explicitly warned not to go up the mountain at night.* —*ness n* [U]

**ex-plode** /ɪk'spləʊd/ *v* **1** [I;T] to blow up or burst or cause (esp. a bomb or other explosive) to blow up or burst: *The bomb exploded at 10.15 pm.* | *Don't touch that parcel; it might explode!* | *The army took the bomb away to a safe place and exploded it.* **2** [I (in, into, with)] (of a person) to show sudden violent and usu. noisy feeling: *He exploded with/in anger.* | *The audience exploded into/with laughter.* **3** [T often pass.] to prove (a belief) to be wrong or mistaken: *to explode a claim/theory* | *These statistics have finally exploded the myth that women are worse drivers than men.*

**ex-plod-ed** /ɪk'spləʊdɪd/ *adj tech* (of a drawing, model, etc.) showing the parts of something separated but in correct relationship to each other

**ex-plot** /ɪk'splɒt/ *v* [T] **1** *derog* to use (esp. a person) unfairly for one's own profit or advantage; a word used to describe the misuse of power relations, esp. by employers or strong social and political groups: *The firm exploits its workers disgracefully.* | *The world economic system exploits the developing countries in favour of the developed ones.* | *The opposition parties are sure to exploit the government's difficulties over this issue.* **2** to use or develop (a thing) fully so as to get profit: *to exploit the country's mineral resources* —*er n* —*ation* /,eksplə'teɪʃən/ *n* [U]

**ex-plot** /'eksplɒt/ *n* *apprec* a brave and successful act: *He performed many daring exploits, such as crossing the Atlantic Ocean in a rowing boat.*

**ex-plot-a-tive** /ɪk'splɒtətɪv/ *adj derog* tending to exploit people

**ex-plo-ra-to-ry** /ɪk'splɒrətəri||ɪk'splɔːrətɔːri/ *adj* (of an action) done in order to find out something: *The doctors carried out an exploratory operation on my stomach.* | *exploratory talks with the leaders of the strike*

**ex-plore** /ɪk'splɔː/ *v* [T] **1** to travel into or through (a place) for the purpose of discovery: *exploring the Amazon jungle* **2** to examine (esp. a subject or question) carefully in order to find out more: *We must explore all the possibilities.* —**ploration** /,eksplə'reɪʃən/ *n* [C;U]: *a voyage of exploration into outer space* | *There must be a full exploration of all the possibilities before we decide.*

explorer



**ex-plo-rer** /ɪk'splɔːrə/ *n* someone who explores, esp. a person who travels for the purpose of discovery: *a famous 19th-century explorer*

**ex-plo-sion** /ɪk'spləʊzən/ *n* **1** (a loud noise caused by) an

act of exploding: *When she lit the gas there was a loud explosion.* | (fig.) *Explosions of laughter could be heard coming from the classroom.* | *an explosion of anger* **2** a sudden increase in the stated thing: *How can we account for the recent population explosion?* | *the sudden explosion of drug abuse*

**ex-plo-sive** /ɪk'spləʊsɪv/ *adj* **1** that can explode: *It's highly dangerous to smoke when handling explosive materials.* | (fig.) *The old man has an explosive temper.* **2** (of a subject or question) that can cause very strong feeling; very **CONTROVERSIAL**: *Race relations are an explosive issue.* —*ly adv* —*ness n* [U]

**explosive** <sup>2</sup> *n* an explosive substance: *Gunpowder is an explosive.* —see also **HIGH EXPLOSIVE**, **PLASTIC EXPLOSIVE**

**ex-po-nent** /ɪk'spəʊnənt/ *n* **1** [(of)] a person who expresses, supports, performs, or is an example of a stated thing: *She is one of the leading exponents of Freudian psychiatry.* **2** *tech* a sign written above and to the right of a number or letter in **MATHEMATICS** to show how many times that quantity is to be multiplied by itself: *In 12<sup>3</sup> the number 3 is the exponent; in y<sup>n</sup> the letter n is the exponent.*

**ex-po-nen-tial** /,ekspe'nɛnʃəl/ *adj tech* **1** produced or expressed by multiplying a set of quantities by themselves: *an exponential growth rate* | *The population is increasing on an exponential curve.* **2** containing an **EXPONENT** (2): *y<sup>n</sup> is an exponential expression.* —*ly adv*

**ex-port** <sup>1</sup> /ɪk'spɔːt||-ɔːrt/ *v* [I;T] to send (goods) out of a country for sale: *We export (goods) to over 40 different countries.* | *They sell to the home market (=trade within the country) but they don't export.* | (fig.) *Britain has exported its language to many parts of the world.* —compare **IMPORT** <sup>1</sup> —*able adj* —*er n*: *Switzerland is a big exporter of watches.*

**ex-port** <sup>2</sup> /'eksport||-ɔːrt/ *n* **1** [U] (the business of) exporting: *The export of gold is forbidden.* | *export earnings/sales/markets* **2** [C often pl.] something exported: *We depend on our exports for foreign currency.* | *Wool is one of the chief exports of Australia.* | *Selling insurance overseas is Britain's largest invisible export.* (=means of bringing money into the country other than by selling goods) —compare **IMPORT** <sup>2</sup>

**ex-por-ta-tion** /,ekspe:'teɪʃən||-ɔːr-/ *n* [U] the action of exporting: *the exportation of corn to Asia* —compare **IMPORTATION**

**Export Cred-it Guar-an-tee De-part-ment** /,ɪk'spɔːt kɹeɪtɪ'gærən'ti:de'pɑːtmənt/ [the] a British government department which protects British **EXPORTERS** against losses from exporting (**EXPORT**) goods, e.g. non-payment by the buyers, etc.

**ex-port-er** /ɪk'spɔːtə/ *n* a person or country that exports: *Switzerland is a big exporter of watches.* —compare **IMPORTER**

**export li-cence** /'ɪk'spɔːt lɪ'sens/ *n* a document from the Department of Trade and Industry in Britain, allowing someone to sell certain goods abroad, e.g. weapons or works of art

**ex-pose** /ɪk'spəʊz/ *v* [T] **1** [(to)] to uncover; leave without protection: *Keep indoors and don't expose your skin to the sun.* | (fig.) *As a nurse in the war she was exposed to many dangers.* **2** [(to)] to make known (a secretly guilty person or action) a word used esp. when shame is brought on a person who is well-known or well-respected: *I threatened to expose him (to the police).* **3** to uncover (a film) to the light, when taking a photograph: *The photograph is too light. It must have been over-exposed.* **4** to leave (a baby) to die of cold and hunger out of doors: *The ancient Greeks are said to have exposed their unwanted babies.* **5** **expose oneself** (of a man) to show one's sexual parts on purpose, in the hope of exciting or shocking people

**ex-po-sé** /ek'spəʊzeɪ||,ekspe'zeɪ/ *n* [(of)] *Fr* a public statement of the esp. shocking facts about something. *Exposés* are often written by newspaper or television reporters: *an exposé of government corruption*

**ex-posed** /ɪk'spəʊzd/ *adj* [(to)] not protected from attack or sheltered from bad weather: *The army was left in an exposed position.* | *an exposed hillside*

**ex-po-si-tion** /,ekspe'zɪʃən/ *n* **1** [C;U] *fml* (an act of) explaining and making clear: *She gave a full exposition of the projected marketing campaign.* **2** [C] an international show (**EXHIBITION**) of the products of industry

**ex post fac-to law** /,eks pəʊst 'fæktəʊ lɔː/ *n* *law* a law



which makes an action a crime and then punishes people who took that action before the law was made. Laws like this are forbidden in the US.

**ex-pos-tu-late** /ɪk'spɒstʃʊleɪt/ -'spɑː-/ *v* [I (with, about, on)] *fml* to reason with someone or express disagreement, annoyance, etc., esp. in order to prevent someone from doing something: *The ambassador expostulated at some length about foreign interference in the internal affairs of her country.* —**-lation** /ɪk'spɒstʃʊleɪʃən/ -'spɑː-/ *n* [C;U]

**ex-po-sure** /ɪk'spəʊʒə/ *n* 1 [C;U (to)] (a case of) being exposed (EXPOSE (1)) to the stated influence: *After only a short exposure to sunlight he began to turn red.* | *The scientists risked exposure to harmful radiation.* | (fig.) *Being a soldier entails a certain exposure to danger.* 2 [U] the effect on the body of being out in cold weather for a long time: *We nearly died of exposure on the cold mountain.* 3 [C;U (of)] (a case of) being exposed (EXPOSE (2)): *I threatened them with public exposure.* | *Repeated exposures of governmental corruption have appeared in the newspapers.* 4 [C] the amount of film that must be exposed (EXPOSE (3)) to take one photograph: *I have three exposures left on this film.* 5 [C] the length of time that a film must be exposed (EXPOSE (3)) to take a photograph: *an exposure of 1/100 of a second* 6 [S] the direction in which a room or house faces: *My bedroom has a southern exposure.* —see also INDECENT EXPOSURE and see picture at CAMERA

**ex-pound** /ɪk'spaʊnd/ *v* [I (on); T (to)] *fml* to give a reasoned and detailed account or explanation (of): *She expounded for some hours on her theories about Central America.* | *to expound one's views*

**ex-press**<sup>1</sup> /ɪk'spres/ *v* [T] 1 to show (a feeling, opinion, or fact), esp. in words: *She expressed surprise when I told her how much it was.* | *We expressed our thanks.* [+wh-] *I can hardly express how grateful I feel.* 2 *BrE* to send by express post: *This letter is urgent; we'd better express it.* 3 [(from, out of)] *fml* to press (oil, juice, etc.) out of something: *The juice is expressed from the grapes and made into wine.* 4 **express oneself** to speak or write one's thoughts or feelings: *She expresses herself in good clear English.*

**express**<sup>2</sup> *n* 1 [C] also **express train** /ɪk'spres'treɪn/ — a fast train: *We caught the 9.30 express to London.* 2 [U] also **express delivery** esp. *BrE* — a service given by the post office, railways, etc., for carrying things faster than usual: *Send the letter by express.*

**express**<sup>3</sup> *adv* by express post: *Send the parcel express.*

**express**<sup>4</sup> *adj* [A] 1 going or sent quickly: *an express bus* | *I sent the letter by express delivery.* 2 *fml* clearly stated or understood; particular: *It was her express wish that you should have her jewels after her death.* | *I came here with the express purpose of seeing you.* —see also EXPRESSLY

**Express** [the] DAILY EXPRESS

**ex-pres-sion** /ɪk'spreʃən/ *n* 1 [C;U] (an example of) the act of expressing; showing of feelings, opinions, etc., by words or actions: *He closed his letter with expressions of grateful thanks.* | *A government should permit the free expression of political opinion.* | *She gave him the present as an expression of gratitude.* | *You should give expression to (=express) your feelings, not hide them.* | *His anger at last found expression in (=was expressed) in loud cursing.* 2 [C] a look on a person's face: *When I saw her expression I knew I was in for trouble.* | *a puzzled/confident/surprised expression* 3 [C] a word or group of words: *"In the family way" is an old-fashioned expression meaning "pregnant".* 4 [U] the quality of showing or performing with feeling: *She has a beautiful voice, but she doesn't sing with much expression.* 5 [C] *tech* (in MATHEMATICS) a sign or group of signs that represents a quantity:  *$x^2 + 4$  is an expression.*

**ex-pres-sion-is-m** /ɪk'spreʃənɪzəm/ *n* [U] (often *cap.*) a style of painting, writing, or music (esp. in Europe in the late 19th and early 20th centuries) which expresses feelings rather than describing objects and experiences — compare IMPRESSIONISM —**-ist** *n*, *adj*

**ex-pres-sion-less** /ɪk'spreʃənləs/ *adj* (esp. of a voice or face) not showing any feeling; a word usu. used when talking about someone who is thought to be deliberately hiding their feelings: *"I'm not angry," she said, in a controlled, expressionless voice.* — **~ly** *adv*

**ex-pres-sive** /ɪk'spresɪv/ *adj* [(of)] full of feeling and mean-

ing: *She has such an expressive face.* | *A baby's cry can be expressive of hunger or pain.* — **~ly** *adv*: *He plays the piano very expressively.* — **~ness** *n* [U]

**express let-ter** /ɪk'spreslɪ/ *n* [C] *BrE* || **special delivery** *AmE* — a letter sent by express post

**ex-press-ly** /ɪk'spresli/ *adv* *fml* 1 clearly; in an EXPRESS<sup>4</sup> (2) way: *I told you expressly to report to me every day.* 2 on purpose: *The law was passed expressly to prevent such activities.*

**express post** /ɪk'spres/ *n* [C] *BrE* || **special delivery** *AmE* — *adv* the system of sending mail faster than usual and at a higher cost

**ex-press-way** /ɪk'spresweɪ/ *n* *AmE* a road with at least two, and as many LANES for traffic in each direction, and without any traffic lights, so that the driver may travel on it without stopping, usu. in or near a big city

▷ **USAGE NOTE** Many different *AmE* words describe this kind of road. **Expressways** are often in or near big cities. **Freeways** are also often near cities, or connect them. Like expressways they do not cost anything to use. **Turnpikes** and **tollways** are usu. longer, sometimes stretching all the way across a state, and the driver must pay to use them. Some of the roads in the **Interstate Highway** (=road going from one state to another) system are tollways, others are free. **Superhighway** is used to name any of these kinds of roads. ◁

**ex-pro-pri-ate** /ɪk'sprəʊpriət/ *v* [T] to take away (something owned by someone else), often for public use and/or without payment: *The State expropriated all the company's oil wells during the war.* —**-ator** *n* —**-ation** /ɪk'sprəʊpri'eɪʃən/ *n* [C;U]

**ex-pul-sion** /ɪk'spʌlʃən/ *n* [C;U (from)] (an act of) expelling (EXPEL) or being expelled

**ex-punge** /ɪk'spʌndʒ/ *v* [T (from)] *fml* to rub out or remove (a word, name, etc.) from a list, book, etc.: *The details we wanted had been expunged from the records.*

**ex-pur-gate** /'ekspəgeɪt/ -ər-/ *v* [T] to remove harmful or offensive parts from (a book, play, etc.): *I've only read the expurgated version of this book, which is rather boring.* —see also UNEXPURGATED —**-gation** /'ekspə'geɪʃən/ -ər-/ *n* [C;U]

**ex-qui-site** /ɪk'skwɪzɪt, 'ekskwɪ-/ *adj* 1 very finely made or done; extremely beautiful or skilful: *exquisite manners/grace/beauty* | *an exquisite piece of jewellery* 2 (of power to feel) sensitive and delicate: *He has exquisite taste in music.* 3 *fml* (of pain or pleasure) very great — **~ly** *adv* — **~ness** *n* [U]

**ex-ser-vice-man** /ɪk'sɜːvɪsmən/ *n* [C] *BrE* a person who was formerly in one of the armed forces —compare VETERAN<sup>1</sup> (1)

**ex-tant** /ɪk'stænt/ *adj* *fml* (esp. of something written, painted, etc.) still existing

**ex-tem-po-ra-ne-ous** /ɪk'stempə'reɪniəs/ *adj* spoken or done without time for preparation; extempore — **~ly** *adv* — **~ness** *n* [U]

**ex-tem-po-re** /ɪk'stempəri/ *adj*, *adv* (spoken or done) without time for thought or preparation: *an extempore speech* | *It's very hard to speak (=make a speech) extempore.*

**ex-tem-po-rize** also **-rise** *BrE* /ɪk'stempəraɪz/ *v* [I] to perform extempore; AD-LIB: *One of the actresses forgot her lines and had to extemporize.* —**-rization** /ɪk'stempəraɪ'zeɪʃən/ -pərə-/ *n* [C;U]

**ex-tend** /ɪk'stend/ *v* 1 [I+adv/prep] (of space, land, time, etc.) to reach, stretch, or continue: *The hot weather extended into October.* | *The kingdom extended as far as the mountains/hundreds of miles in every direction.* | (fig.) *The regulations do not extend to foreign visitors.* 2 [T] to make longer or greater, esp. so as to reach a desired point: *We will eventually extend the road as far as the station.* | *They extended the railway to the next town.* | *You can extend the guarantee by paying an extra £20.* | *She arrived for an extended (=long) stay.* | *The company plans to extend its activities to produce videos.* 3 [T] to stretch out (a part of one's body) to the limit: *The bird landed with its wings extended.* 4 [T (to)] *fml* to give or offer (help, friendship, etc.) to someone: *I would like to extend a warm welcome to our visitors.* [+obj(i)+obj(d)] *The bank will extend you credit. (=the right to borrow money)* 5



[T usu. pass.] to cause to use all possible power: *The horse won the race easily without being fully extended.*

**extended fam-i-ly** /ˌɛkˌstɛndɪd ˈfæm.ɪ.li/ *n* a family unit that consists not only of parents and children but also of other close relations such as grandfathers, grandmothers, and COUSINS —compare NUCLEAR FAMILY

► **CULTURAL NOTE** Because many young people move away from where they grew up, British people do not depend on the extended family for support as much as people do in some other countries. ◀

**ex-ten-sion** /ɪkˈstɛnʃən/ *n* 1 [C;U] (an example of) the act of extending or being extended: *a further extension of the power of central government* | *the extension of the copyright laws to cover recorded material* 2 [C (of)] a part which is added to make something longer, wider, or larger: *We're having an extension built onto the house.* | *I planned an extension of my holiday.* | (BrE) *The pub's got an extension tonight.* (=it is open after usual opening hours) 3 [C] any of many telephone lines which connect various rooms or offices in a large building to the SWITCHBOARD: *My extension (number) is 45.* 4 [U] a part of a university which offers courses to people who are not full-time students: *He's taking a political science class through UCLA extension.* | *She's doing an extension course.* 5 also **extension lead** BrE || **extension cord** AmE— an electrical lead which can easily be bent and which has a PLUG at one end used to connect a piece of electrical equipment to the electricity supply some distance away: *You'll need an extension lead if you want to take the lamp up into the loft.*

**ex-ten-sive** /ɪkˈstɛnsɪv/ *adj* large in amount, area, or range; having an effect on or including many parts: *The storm caused extensive damage.* | *We're having extensive repairs done to the building.* | *The story received extensive coverage in the newspapers.* | *The house has extensive grounds.* —~ly *adv*: *She has read extensively.*

**ex-tent** /ɪkˈstɛnt/ *n* 1 [U (of)] the length or area to which something extends: *From the moon you can see the full extent of the Sahara desert.* | (fig.) *I was surprised at the extent of his knowledge.* | *What's the extent of the damage?* (=how much damage is there) 2 [S] a stated degree: *I agree with what you say to some extent* (=partly) */to a certain extent/to a large extent.* | *The temperature rose to such an extent* (=so much) *that the firemen had to leave the burning building.* 3 [the+S+of] the limit: *I've reached the extent of my patience.*

**ex-ten-u-ate** /ɪkˈstɛnjuet/ *v* [T] to lessen the seriousness of (bad behaviour) by finding excuses for it; a word used esp. in connection with criminal acts: *He stole the money, but there were extenuating circumstances.* (=facts that might excuse him) —**ation** /ɪkˈstɛnjuˈeɪʃən/ *n* [U]: *Does the psychiatrist's report have anything to say in extenuation of her crime?* (=that might excuse it)

**ex-te-ri-or** /ɪkˈstɪəriə/ *adj* outer; on or from the outside, esp. of a building: *the exterior walls of the prison* | *exterior paintwork* [F+to] *The male reproductive organs are exterior to* (=outside) *the body.* —opposite **interior**; compare **EXTERNAL**

**exterior** <sup>2</sup> *n* 1 the outside; the outer appearance or surface: *We're painting the exterior of the house.* | *She maintained a calm exterior, though really she was furious.* 2 a picture of an outdoor scene: *Some artists only paint exteriors.* —opposite **interior**

**ex-ter-mi-nate** /ɪkˈstɜːmɪneɪt/ *v* [T] to kill (all the creatures or people in a place, or all those of a certain kind or race): *to exterminate rats/mosquitos* —**nator** *n* —**nation** /ɪkˈstɜːmɪˈneɪʃən/ *n* [U]

► **CULTURAL NOTE** Many British people remember the way that the DALEKS, evil creatures from space in the television programme *Dr Who*, said “Exterminate! Exterminate!” in a level voice with no rise and fall, and they sometimes say the word in this way as a joke. ◀

**ex-ter-nal** /ɪkˈstɜːnl/ *adj* 1 [(to)] on, of, or for the outside: *an external wound* | *This medicine is for external use* (=to put on the skin), *not to drink.* | *The engine is external to the boat.* | *An external student studies outside the university.* | *An external examination is arranged by people outside one's own school.* —compare **EXTERIOR** 2 that can be seen but is not natural or real: *He is actually very shy, despite external appearances.* (=even though he appears not to be) 3 foreign: *This newspaper doesn't*

*pay enough attention to external affairs.* —opposite **internal** —~ly *adv*

**external ex-am-in-er** /ˌɛkˌstɜːnl ˈɛks.ə.mɪ.nər/ *n* BrE someone who visits a place of learning to examine students, or to check the quality of examination papers and make sure that standards stay the same in similar institutions —compare **INTERNAL EXAMINER**

**ex-ter-nal-ize** also **-ise** BrE /ɪkˈstɜːnləɪz/ *v* [T] *tech* (in **PSYCHOLOGY**) 1 to give outward expression to (feelings), esp. by words 2 to **RATIONALIZE** (1b) —**-ization** /ɪkˈstɜːnləɪˈzeɪʃən/ *n* [C;U]

**ex-ter-nals** /ɪkˈstɜːnlz/ *n* [P] outward forms and appearances: *You mustn't judge people by externals.*

**ex-tinct** /ɪkˈstɪŋkt/ *adj* 1 (of a kind of animal) no longer existing: *Dinosaurs have been extinct for millions of years.* | (fig.) *The belief in magic is almost extinct nowadays.* 2 (of a **VOLCANO**) no longer active

**ex-tinc-tion** /ɪkˈstɪŋkʃən/ *n* [U (of)] 1 the state of being or becoming extinct: *Is the human race threatened with complete extinction?* 2 *fml* the process of extinguishing: *the extinction of a fire/of our hopes*

**ex-tin-guish** /ɪkˈstɪŋɡwɪʃ/ *v* [T] *fml* to put out (a light or fire): *Smoking is forbidden. Please extinguish your cigarettes.* | (fig.) *Nothing could extinguish his faith in human nature.*

**ex-tin-guish-er** /ɪkˈstɪŋɡwɪʃə/ *n* a **FIRE EXTINGUISHER**

**ex-tir-pate** /ˈɛkstɜːpeɪt/ *v* [T] *fml* to destroy (something bad) completely —**-pation** /ˈɛkstɜːˈpeɪʃən/ *n* [U]

**ex-tol** /ɪkˈstəʊl/ *v* -ll- [T] *fml* to praise very highly: *He keeps extolling the merits of his new car.* | *a speech extolling the virtues of free enterprise*

**ex-tort** /ɪkˈstɔːt/ *v* [T (from)] to obtain (something) by force or threats: *They accused him of trying to extort money with menaces.* | *He extorted a promise from her.* —**-ion** /ˈstɔːʃən/ *n* [C;U]: *The confession was obtained by extortion.* —~**-ioner**, —~**-ionist** *n*

**ex-tor-tion-ate** /ɪkˈstɔːʃənɪt/ *adj* *derog* (of a demand, price, etc.) much too high; **EXORBITANT** —~ly *adv*: *The rent was extortionately high.*

**ex-tra** <sup>1</sup> /ˈɛkstrə/ *adj, adv* 1 [A] additional(ly); beyond what is usual or necessary: *I need some extra money.* | *an extra loaf of bread* | *I'm going to work extra hard.* 2 as well as the regular charge: [F] *Dinner costs £13, and wine is extra.* | *They charge extra for wine.* [after *n*] *I had to pay £3 extra.*

**extra** <sup>2</sup> *n* 1 something added, for which an extra charge is made: *At this hotel a hot bath is an extra.* 2 a film actor who has a very small part: *We need a thousand extras for the big crowd scene.* 3 a special **EDITION** (=one printing) of a newspaper: *Late evening extra!* (shouted by newspaper seller) 4 (in cricket) a run that is not scored (**SCORE**) by a stroke of the **BAT**. For example, a **BYE** and a **NO BALL** are both extras.

**extra-** see **WORD FORMATION**

**ex-tract** <sup>1</sup> /ɪkˈstrækt/ *v* [T (from)] 1 to pull or take out, esp. with effort or difficulty: *She had a tooth extracted.* | (fig.) *They extracted a confession from the criminal.* 2 to remove (a substance which is contained in another substance) with a machine or instrument or by chemical means: *The oil is extracted from the seeds of certain plants.*

**ex-tract** <sup>2</sup> /ˈɛkstrækt/ *n* 1 [C (from)] a passage of written or spoken matter that has been taken from a longer work; **EXCERPT**: *She read me a few extracts from his letter.* 2 [C;U (of)] a product obtained by extracting (**EXTRACT** <sup>1</sup> (2)): *meat extract* —compare **ESSENCE** (2)

**ex-trac-tion** /ɪkˈstrækʃən/ *n* 1 [C;U (from)] (an example of) the act of extracting: *Her teeth were so bad that she needed five extractions.* | *The extraction of coal from these deep mines is expensive.* 2 [U] family origin in a stated place: *He is an American of Russian extraction.* (=his family came from Russia)

**ex-trac-tor** /ɪkˈstræktə/ also **extractor fan** /ˌɛkˌstræktə ˈfæn/ *n* an apparatus which takes out impure or smelly air from a kitchen, factory, etc.

**ex-tra-cur-ric-u-lar** /ˌɛkstrəkəˈrɪkjʊlə/ *adj* (esp. of activities such as sports, music, or acting) outside the regular course of work (**CURRICULUM**) in a school or college. These activities are usu. free, and allow students to follow their own interests while using the facilities (**FACILITY**) of their place of study: *extracurricular activities*



**ex-tra-di-ta-ble** /'ekstrədaitəbəl/ *adj* (of a crime) for which a person can be extradited

**ex-tra-dite** /'ekstrədait/ *v* [T (from, to)] to send (someone who may be guilty of a crime and who has escaped to another country or state) back for trial: *The English murderer was caught by the French police and extradited to Britain.* — **-dition** /'ekstrə'dɪʃən/ *n* [C;U]: *Is there an extradition treaty between these two countries?*

**ex-tra-ju-di-cial** /'ekstrədʒu:'dɪʃəl/ *adj* beyond or outside the ordinary powers of the law

**ex-tra-mar-i-tal** /'ekstrə'mærɪtl/ *adj* of a married person's sexual relationships outside marriage: *an extramarital affair*

**ex-tra-mu-ral** /'ekstrə'mjuərəl/ *adj* 1 connected with a place or organization but happening or done outside it: *This hospital provides extramural care.* 2 esp. BrE (of a student, course, etc.) connected with a university but working or happening outside it: *I attended extramural lectures organized by the University of Birmingham.* — opposite **intramural**

**ex-tra-ne-ous** /'ɪk'streɪniəs/ *adj* 1 [(to)] not belonging or directly connected; **IRRELEVANT**: *His account of the war includes a lot of extraneous details.* | *This is extraneous to the subject we were discussing.* 2 being or coming from outside: *extraneous noises/forces* — ~ **ly** *adv*

**extra-or-di-na-ri-ly** /'ɪk'strɔ:dənərɪli||'ɪk'strɔ:rdn'erli, 'ekstrə'ɔ:rdn-erli/ *adv* 1 very strangely: *Why does he behave so extraordinarily?* 2 more than usually; extremely: *It took an extraordinarily long time.*

**extra-or-di-na-ry** /'ɪk'strɔ:dənəri||'ɪk'strɔ:rdn-eri, 'ekstrə'ɔ:rdn-eri/ *adj* 1 very strange: *What an extraordinary hat!* 2 more than what is ordinary; special: *a girl of extraordinary beauty* | *An Act was passed giving the army extraordinary powers.* 3 [A] (of an arrangement) in addition to the ordinary one(s): *There will be an extraordinary meeting next Wednesday to discuss the emergency resolution.* 4 [after *n*] *fml* (of certain officials) additional to the usual official(s); employed on a special service: *an ambassador extraordinary*

**ex-trap-o-late** /'ɪk'stræpələnt/ *v* [I;T (from)] 1 (in **MATHEMATICS**) to work out (the value of a number which depends on measurements) by filling in the other measurements beyond those already known: *We don't know the exact figure for forest damage, but we can extrapolate from the sample surveys.* 2 a to guess (something in the future) from facts already known: *to extrapolate future energy demands* b to use (facts already known) so as to form a guess about the future — **-lation** /'ɪk'stræpə'leɪʃən/ *n* [U]

**ex-tra-sen-so-ry per-cep-tion** /'ekstrə'sensəri pə'sepʃən||-pər-/ *n* [U] see **ESP**<sup>1</sup>

**ex-tra-ter-res-tri-al** /'ekstrətə'restriəl/ *adj* (coming from) outside the Earth; a word often used in **SCIENCE-FICTION** stories: *Does extraterrestrial life exist?*

**ex-tra-ter-ri-to-ri-al** /'ekstrətərɪ'tɔ:riəl/ *adj* 1 *fml* outside the country: *Most of Britain's former extraterritorial possessions are now independent.* 2 *tech* (of a right) free from control by local law: *An ambassador has extraterritorial rights and cannot be punished for breaking the law.*

**extra time** /ɪk'strə'taɪm/ *n* [U] a period of usu. 30 minutes added to the end of a football match which has ended in a draw. Extra time is added in certain competitions when there needs to be a clear winner.

**ex-trav-a-gant** /'ɪk'strævəɡənt/ *adj* *derog* 1 wasteful, esp. of money: *Don't be so extravagant; spend your money more carefully.* | *an extravagant party* 2 (of ideas, behaviour, and the expression of feeling) uncontrolled; beyond what is reasonable: *He makes the most extravagant claims for his new system.* — ~ **ly** *adv* — **-gance** *n* [C;U]: *His latest extravagance is a handmade silk shirt.* | *complaints about the government's extravagance*

**ex-trav-a-gan-za** /'ɪk'strævə'gænzə/ *n* a very grand and expensive piece of entertainment: *Her latest musical extravaganza features fifty dancing girls and live horses on stage.*

**ex-tra-vert** /'ekstrəvɜ:t||-ɜ:rt/ *n* an **EXTROVERT**

**ex-treme**<sup>1</sup> /'ɪk'stri:m/ *adj* 1 [A *no comp.*] greatest possible; of the highest degree: *in extreme danger* | *extreme cold* | *The extreme penalty of the law in England used to be punishment by death.* 2 [A *no comp.*] furthest possible;

at the very beginning or end: *The capital is in the extreme south of the country.* | *In extreme old age people often lose their memories.* 3 *often derog* (esp. of opinions and those who hold them) going beyond the usual limits; likely to be disapproved of by most people: *His political views are rather extreme.* | *She's an extreme right-winger.* | *The government had to take extreme measures to quell the uprising.*

**extreme**<sup>2</sup> *n* 1 the furthest possible limit; an extreme degree: *He used to be a Communist but now he's gone to the opposite/other extreme and joined the Fascists.* | (*fml*) *She has been generous in the extreme.* (=very generous) | *Sometimes he eats enormous amounts and sometimes nothing. He goes from one extreme to the other.* 2 *go/be driven to extremes* to (be forced to) act too violently or behave in an extreme way

**ex-treme-ly** /'ɪk'stri:mli/ *adv* to an extreme degree; very; highly: *I'm extremely sorry/angry.*

**ex-trem-is-m** /'ɪk'stri:mɪzəm/ *n* [U] *usu. derog* (esp. in politics) the holding of **EXTREME**<sup>1</sup> (3) opinions — **-ist** *n*: *The bomb was planted by right-wing extremists.*

**ex-trem-i-ties** /'ɪk'streɪmɪtiz/ *n* [P] *fml* 1 the farthest parts of the body, esp. the hands and feet 2 strong, sudden, and severe action: *If they don't repay the loan soon, we shall have to resort to extremities.*

**ex-trem-i-ty** /'ɪk'streɪmɪti/ *n* [S;U (of)] *fml* the highest degree, esp. of suffering and sorrow; (a case of) the greatest misfortune: *The poor animal was in an extremity of pain.* — see also **IN EXTREMIS**

**ex-tri-cate** /'ekstrɪkeɪt/ *v* [T (from)] to set free from something that it is difficult to escape from; **DISENTANGLE**: *The wrecked car had to be lifted before the driver could be extricated.* | *I managed to extricate myself from the situation by telling a small lie.* — **-cable** /'ek'strɪkəbəl/ *adj* — **-cation** /'ekstrɪ'keɪʃən/ *n* [U]

**ex-tro-vert**, **extravert** /'ekstrəvɜ:t||-ɜ:rt/ *n* 1 a person who likes to spend time in activities with other people rather than being quiet and alone 2 *infml* a cheerful confident person — compare **INTROVERT**

**ex-tro-vert-ed**, **extraverted** /'ekstrəvɜ:tɪd||-vɜ:r-/ *adj* being or typical of an extrovert: *extroverted behaviour* — **-version** /'ekstrə'vɜ:ʃən||-'vɜ:rʒən/ *n* [U]

**ex-trude** /'ɪk'stru:d/ *v* [T (from)] 1 *fml* to push or force out by pressure 2 *tech* to shape (plastic or metal) in this way, by forcing through a **DIE** (=a block with a shaped hole in it) — **-rusion** /'ɪk'stru:ʒən/ *n* [C;U]

**ex-u-be-rant** /ɪg'zju:bərənt||ɪg'zu:-/ *adj* 1 (of people and their behaviour) overflowing with life and cheerful excitement: *exuberant high spirits* | (fig.) *His paintings were full of exuberant colour.* 2 (of plants) growing strongly and plentifully: *the exuberant growth of a tropical rain forest* — ~ **ly** *adv* — **-rance** *n* [U]

**ex-ude** /ɪg'zju:d||ɪg'zu:d/ *v* [I;T] to (cause to) flow out slowly and spread in all directions: *A sticky substance exuded from the broken branch.* | (fig.) *She exudes confidence.*

**ex-ult** /ɪg'zʌlt/ *v* [I (at, in, over)] *fml* or *lit* to show great delight and pleasure, often at the defeat or failure of someone else; a word *usu.* used with disapproval in modern English: *The soldiers exulted at their victory/exulted over their defeated enemies.* — compare **EXALT** — ~ **-ation** /'egzʌl'teɪʃən/ *n* [U]: *The climber gave a cry of exultation when he reached the mountain top.*

**ex-ul-tant** /ɪg'zʌltənt/ *adj* *fml* or *lit* exulting; **JUBILANT**: *The exultant crowds were dancing in the streets.* — ~ **ly** *adv*

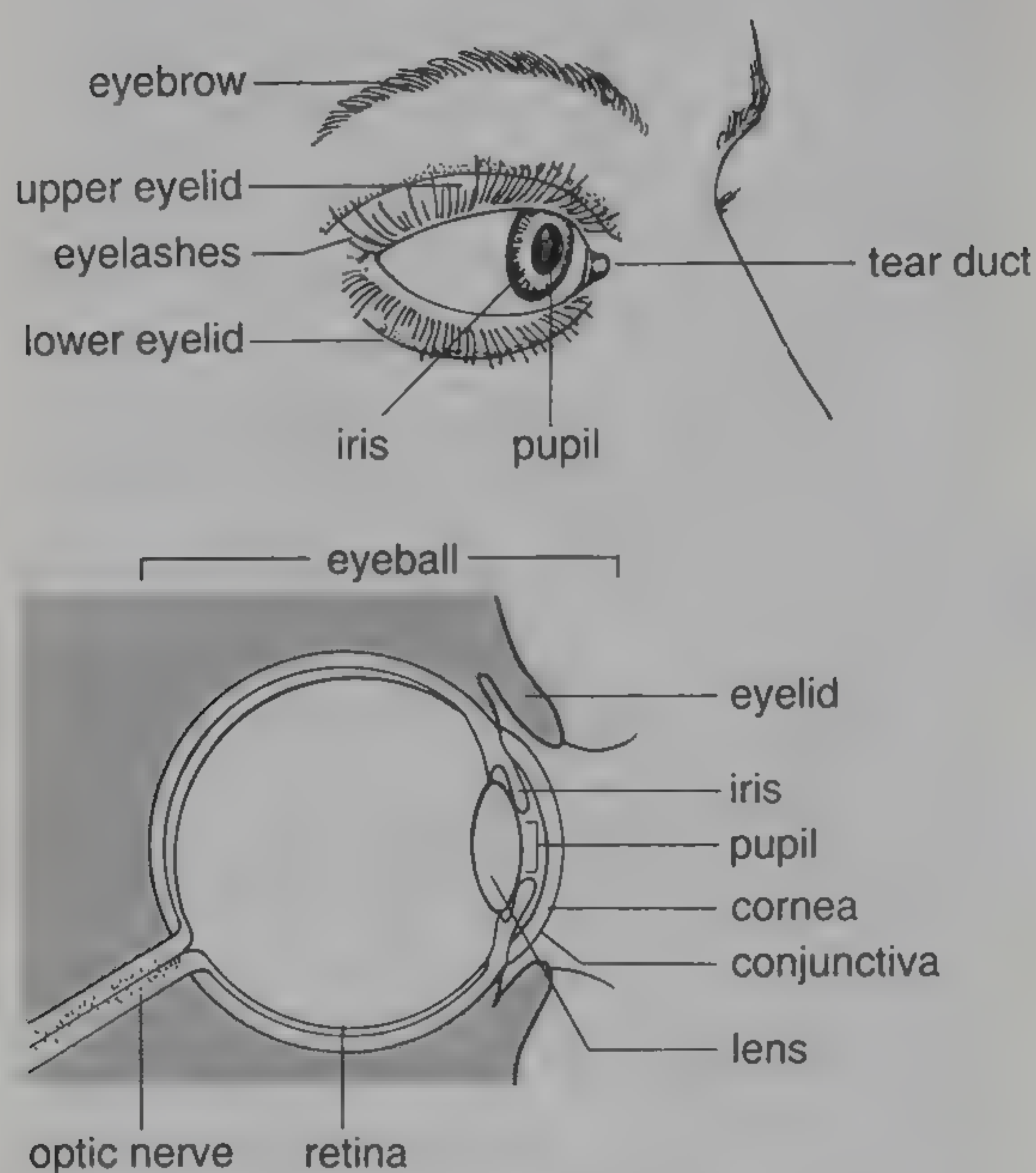
**Ex-xon** /'eksn||-ɑ:n/ *tdmk* the largest oil company in the US, called Esso in Britain: *It's two cents lower at the Exxon station.*

**Exxon Val-dez** /'eksn væl'dɪz||-sɑ:n-/ [*the*] *tdmk* the ship that caused the world's largest oil problem when it was wrecked in Prince William Sound, Alaska, in 1989, and large quantities of oil poured into the sea. Exxon spent a large amount of money on cleaning up the oil, which killed birds and sea animals, but was taken to court by many owners of damaged property. — see also **AMOCO CADIZ**

**eye**<sup>1</sup> /aɪ/ *n* 1 the organ of the body with which one sees: *He lost an eye in an accident, and now he has a glass eye.* | *She has blue eyes.* | *an eye specialist* | *She closed her eyes and went to sleep.* — see picture at **HEAD** 2 also **eyes pl.** — the power of seeing: *My eye fell upon* (=I noticed) *an*



## eye



interesting article in the newspaper. | She has a (good) eye for (=an ability to notice, judge, etc.) fashion. | To my eye (=in my opinion, having seen them) his paintings are just ugly daubs. | I couldn't believe my eyes when I saw how big it was. | She never took her eyes off (=stopped watching) the baby for a moment. **3** the hole in a needle through which the thread passes **4** a dark spot on a potato, from which a new plant can grow **5** the calm centre of a storm, esp. of a HURRICANE **6** a small ring-shaped or U-shaped piece of metal into which a hook fits for fastening: Her dress was fastened with hooks and eyes. —see picture at FASTENER **7** an eye for an eye phrase from the Bible a punishment which hurts the criminal in the same way as they hurt someone else: If the state punishes a murderer by death it's an eye for an eye. **8** get/keep one's eye in BrE (in ball games such as cricket or tennis) to get/keep, through practice, the ability to see the ball and to judge its direction **9** have eyes in the back of one's head infml to be able to see or notice everything: How did you know I was there? You must have eyes in the back of your head. **10** (in) the eyes of (in) the judgment or opinion of: In her father's eyes she can do no wrong. | In the eyes of (=according to) the law it is an offence, no matter how well intentioned. | The eyes of the world are upon us today. (=everyone around the world is watching) **11** keep an/one's eye on infml to watch carefully: Please keep an eye on the baby for me. **12** keep an eye out for infml to try to notice and remember (someone or something); be on the LOOKOUT for **13** keep one's eyes open/peeled/(also skinned BrE) infml to watch carefully: The thieves kept their eyes peeled for the police. **14** make eyes at infml to show that one finds (someone) sexually attractive by looking at them in an inviting way: He makes eyes at every girl he sees. **15** my eye! old-fash infml (used for expressing disagreement or sometimes surprise): A diamond, my eye! That's glass. **16** one in the eye for infml a disappointment or defeat for; a very informal expression: If we win the cup, it'll be one in the eye for that journalist — he's always said we're no good. **17** only have eyes for to be interested only in: He only has eyes for his wife. (=he's not interested in other women) **18** under/before one's very eyes in front of one; surprisingly in one's presence: The car blew up before our very eyes. **19** up to the eyes/one's eyes in infml very busy with (esp. work): I can't come out today; I'm up to the eyes in work. **20** with/have an eye to having/to have as one's purpose: She bought the house with an eye to making a quick profit out of it. **21** with half an eye infml without looking or inquiring closely: You can see with half an eye that he and his wife are unhappy together. **22** with one's eyes open knowing fully what the problems, difficulties, results, etc., might be: You married him with your eyes open, so don't complain

now! **23** -eyed /aid/ having an eye or eyes of the stated type or number: a one-eyed dog | a blue-eyed girl **24** mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord quote the first line of the song *Battle Hymn of the American Republic* by Julia Ward Howe —see also BLACK EYE, ELECTRIC EYE, EVIL EYE, MAGIC EYE — ~less adj

**eye<sup>2</sup> v eyeing or eying** [T (UP)] to look at closely or with desire: She eyed me suspiciously. | The child was eyeing the chocolate cake. | The boys stood on the corner eyeing (up) the local girls.

**eye-ball<sup>1</sup>** /'aɪbɔ:l/ *n* **1** the whole of the eye, including the part hidden inside the head, which forms a more or less round ball **2** eyeball to eyeball (with) infml face to face; facing each other, esp. in an angry or threatening way: The two politicians confronted each other eyeball to eyeball. | an eyeball-to-eyeball confrontation —see picture at EYE

**eyeball<sup>2</sup> v** [T] AmE sl to look directly at

**eye-brow** /'aɪbraʊ/ also **brow** — *n* **1** the line of hairs above each of the two human eyes: He had thick bushy eyebrows. **2** raise one's eyebrows to show surprise or disapproval, often by moving one's eyebrows upwards: The president's insensitive comments caused a lot of eyebrows to be raised. (=shocked or annoyed many people) **3** up to one's eyebrows (in) infml very busy (at): I can't come out — I'm up to my eyebrows (in work). —see pictures at EYE and HEAD

**eyebrow pen-cil** /'iː , ɔː/ *n* [C;U] (a stick of) coloured material in a holder, used esp. by women for darkening the eyebrows

**eye-catching** /'iː , ɔː/ *adj* unusual or attractive, so that one's attention is caught: an eye-catching advertisement — ~ly *adv*

**eye-ful** /'aɪfʊl/ *n* [S] infml an attractive or interesting sight worth looking at: Get an eyeful of (=look at) this! | She's quite an eyeful!

**eye-glass** /'aɪglɑ:s||-glæs/ *n* a glass (LENS) for one eye, the sight of which is weak; MONOCLE. It is not common now to see someone wearing an eyeglass but some people, usu. men, wore one in the past.

**eye-glass-es** /'aɪglɑ:sɪz||-glæs-/ *n* [P] old use or AmE for GLASSES —see PAIR (USAGE)

**eye-lash** /'aɪlæʃ/ *n* any of the small hairs of which a number grow from the edge of each eyelid in humans and most hairy animals: She had long attractive eyelashes/false eyelashes. —see pictures at EYE and HEAD

**eye-let** /'aɪlət/ *n* a hole with a metal ring round it, which is placed in material such as leather or cloth so that a rope or string may be passed through it —see picture at SHOE

**eye lev-el** /'iː , ɔː/ *adj* of a height level with (=equal to) the height of one's eyes: Hang the picture at eye level. | an eye-level grill

**eye-lid** /'aɪlɪd/ *n* either of the pieces of covering skin which can move down to close each eye —see picture at EYE

**eye-lin-er** /'aɪ,lɪnə/ *n* [U] a usu. black substance used along the bottom edge of the top eyelid, and often also the top edge of the lower eyelid, to show up the shape of a woman's eye more clearly —compare EYE SHADOW

**eye-o-pen-er** /'iː , ɔː/ *n* a surprising sight, event, etc., esp. one that gives knowledge of something not known before: I knew he was strong, but it was quite an eye-opener when I saw him lift that car.

**eye-patch** /'aɪpætʃ/ *n* a PATCH (5)

**eye pen-cil** /'iː , ɔː/ *n* an EYEBROW PENCIL

**eye-piece** /'aɪpi:s/ *n* the glass (LENS) at the eye end of an instrument such as a microscope or TELESCOPE

**eye shad-ow** /'iː , ɔː/ *n* [C;U] (a container of) a coloured cream or powder used esp. by women on the eyelids to make the eyes look larger, more attractive, etc. —compare EYELINER

**eye-sight** /'aɪsaɪt/ *n* [U] the power of seeing: She has good/poor eyesight. | We test your eyesight before giving you a driving licence.

**eye-sore** /'aɪsɔː/ *n* infml something ugly to look at, esp. when many people can see it. Modern buildings are sometimes described as eyesores: That new multi-storey car park is a real eyesore.



**eye-tooth** /'aɪtʊːθ/ *n* -teeth /tiːθ/ 1 either of the two long pointed CANINE teeth (CANINE TOOTH) at the two upper corners of the mouth 2 **give one's eyeteeth for/to** *infml* to give up all one has in order to (get): *I'd give my eyeteeth to be able to play the piano like that.*

**eye-wash** /'aɪwɒʃ||-wɔːʃ, -waːʃ/ *n* [U] *infml* nonsense; something said or done to deceive: *He says he's very busy, but it's all eyewash; he never does any work at all.*

**eye-wit-ness** /'aɪ,wɪtnɪs/ *n* [(to, of)] a person who has seen

an event happen, and so is able to describe it, for example in a law court: *Were there any eyewitnesses to the crime?* | *an eyewitness account of the accident*

**ey-ing** /'aɪ-ɪŋ/ *present participle of EYE*<sup>2</sup>

**eyot** /eɪt, 'eɪət/ *n* *BrE* a small island in a river

**ey-rie**, **eyry** *BrE* || *usu. aerie* *AmE* /'ɪəri, 'eəri, 'aɪəri/ *n* the nest of a large flesh-eating bird, esp. an EAGLE, built high in rocks or cliffs



# F

**F** /ef/ **F's**, **f's** or **Fs**, **fs** the sixth letter of the English alphabet

**F**<sup>1</sup> **1** a note in Western music; the musical **KEY**<sup>1</sup> (4) based on this note **2** *AmE* a mark given to a student's work, meaning he or she has failed on a piece of work or the course: *Mark got an F in math – he'll have to do the class again.* —see **GRADE** 1 (3)

**F**<sup>2</sup> *abbrev. for:* **FAHRENHEIT**: *Water boils at 212 °F.*

**fa** /fɑ:/ *n* [S] the fourth note in the **SOL-FA** musical **SCALE**

**FA** /,ef 'eɪ-/ [the] Football Association; the ruling body for English football, which controls both the **AMATEUR** and the professional game and arranges the **FA CUP** —see also **FOOTBALL** (1) and see also extra information on page 501

**FAA** /,ef eɪ 'eɪ/ [the] *abbrev. for* **FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION**

**fab** /fæb/ *adj* *old-fash infml* extremely good; **FABULOUS**

**Fab-er-gé egg** /,fæbəʒeɪ 'eg||fæbər,ʒeɪ-/ *n* one of many beautiful jewelled eggs made by Peter Carl Fabergé for members of the Russian royal family. The Fabergé eggs are now very valuable.

**Fa-bi-an** /'feɪbiən/ *n, adj* (a member) of the Fabian Society

**Fabian So-ci-e-ty** /'... .., .../ [the] a British organization of left-wing thinkers which was started in the late 19th century and which used to be an important influence on the Labour Party

**fa-ble** /'feɪbəl/ *n* **1** [C] a short story that teaches a lesson (a **MORAL**) or truth, esp. a story in which animals or objects speak. Some of the best known fables were written by Aesop **2** [C] a story about great people who never actually lived; **LEGEND**; **MYTH** **3** [U] such stories considered as a group: *The course is about fable and legend in modern literature.* **4** [C] a false story or account

**fa-bled** /'feɪbəld/ *adj* *usu. apprec* **1** spoken of or famous in fables; **LEGENDARY** **2** very famous

**fab-ric** /'fæbrɪk/ *n* **1** [C;U] (a) cloth made by threads woven together in any of various ways **2** [(the) S] the walls, roof, etc., of a building; structure: *The cost of repairing the fabric of the church was very high.* | (fig.) *The whole fabric of society (=all of it and everything that holds it together) was changed by the war.*

**fab-ri-cate** /'fæbrɪkeɪt/ *v* [T] to make or invent in order to deceive: *It turned out that he had fabricated the whole story.* —**-cation** /,fæbrɪ'keɪʃən/ *n* [C;U]: *The whole story was a complete fabrication. (=a lie)*

**fabric con-di-tion-er** /'... .., .../ also **conditioner**||**fabric soft-en-er** /'... .., .../ *AmE*— *n* a chemical added to water when washing clothes to make the clothes softer, usu. by softening the water

**fab-u-lous** /'fæbjʊləs/ *adj* **1** *infml* extremely good or pleasant; excellent: *It was a fabulous party!* **2** *fml* nearly unbelievable: *She possesses fabulous wealth.* **3** [no comp.] existing or told about in **FABLES**: *The dragon is a fabulous creature.*

**fab-u-lous-ly** /'fæbjʊləsli/ *adv* extremely (rich, great, etc.): *fabulously wealthy*

**fa-cade, façade** /fə'saɪd, fæ-/ *n* **1** the front of a building, esp. of a grand building —compare **ELEVATION** (3) **2** an appearance, esp. one that is false: *Although they put up a facade of honesty, they were involved in various criminal activities.*

**face**<sup>1</sup> /feɪs/ *n* **1** [C] the front part of the head from the chin to the forehead and hair: *a nice/round/spotty face* | *She had/wore a surprised expression on her face.* | *I was so ashamed that I couldn't look her in the face.* (=look directly at her) | (fig.) *Poverty is the unacceptable face of capitalism.* —see picture at **HEAD** **2** [C] a look or expression on the face: *a happy face* | *When he was told he couldn't go to the zoo he pulled a long face.* (=looked sad) | *Although she didn't feel very confident, she put on a brave face and accepted the challenge.* | *The children sat at the window making/pulling faces* (=rude or funny expressions) *at the passers-by.* **3** [C (of)] the front, outer, or most important surface of something: *They climbed*

*the north face of the mountain.* | *The face of the building is covered with climbing plants.* | *the face of a clock/watch* | *They seem to have disappeared off the face of the earth.* (=completely) —see picture at **MOUNTAIN** **4** [C] the surface of a rock, either on or below the ground, from which coal, gold, diamonds, etc., are dug: *The miners work at the coal face for seven hours each day.* **5** [U] a state of being respected by others: *He was afraid of failure because he didn't want to lose face with his colleagues.* | *England saved (their) face by getting a goal in the last minute to draw the match.* —see also **FACE-SAVING** **6** [U] esp. *BrE* self-confidence or daring, esp. which is disrespectful or rude: *I don't know how you can have the face to see her after all the lies you've told.* **7** [C] a **TYPEFACE** **8** **face to face** (with) in or into the direct presence (of): *I've talked to him on the telephone but I've never actually met him face to face.* | *She came face to face with poverty for the first time.* **9** **in the face of** in spite of; against: *In the face of great hardship, she managed to keep her sense of humour.* **10** **on the face of it** judging by what one can see; **APPARENTLY** **11** **put a good/bold/brave face on something** to behave or make it appear as if things are better than they really are **12** **set one's face against** to oppose strongly **13** **to someone's face** in someone's presence; openly: *He wouldn't be so rude to her face.* **14** **-faced** /feɪst/ having a face or expression of the stated type: *red-faced* | *sad-faced* **15** **(Is this) the face that launched a thousand ships(?)** *quote* a phrase from a play by Christopher Marlowe describing the beauty of Helen of Troy

**face**<sup>2</sup> *v* **1** [I+adv/prep; T] to have or turn the face or front towards (something) or in a certain direction: *She turned to face the newcomer and introduced herself.* | *The house faces the park.* | *The building faces north/towards the north.* | *a sunny south-facing garden* | *A diagram appears on the facing (=opposite) page.* **2** [T] a to be in a position in which one must deal with (a problem or unpleasant situation): *Manufacturing industry faces a grim future if the government pursues its present policies.* **b** to accept or deal with (a problem or unpleasant situation), firmly and without trying to avoid it: *We'll have to face (the) facts — we simply can't afford a holiday this year.* | *He couldn't face his boss after making such a fool of himself at the meeting.* **3** [T] to need consideration or action by: *The main difficulty that faces us today is of supplying food to those in need.* **4** [T (with) often pass.] to cover or partly cover (esp. the front part of) with a different material: *The front of the brick house was faced with stone.* **5** **face the music** *infml* to meet and deal with the unpleasant results of one's actions: *He knew he'd never get away with it so he decided to face the music and give himself up to the police.*

**face** sthg./sbdy. ↔ **out** *phr v* [T] to oppose or deal with bravely: *Everyone admired the way she faced out the opposition in the debate.* —compare **OUT FACE**

**face up to** sthg. *phr v* [T] to be brave enough to accept or deal with: *You must learn to face up to your responsibilities.*

**face** sbdy. **with** sthg./sbdy. *phr v* [T] to force to meet or deal with; bring face to face with: *When we faced her with all the evidence, she admitted the crime.*

**face card** /'... .., .../ *n* *AmE* for **COURT CARD**

**face-cloth** /'feɪsklɒθ||-klɔ:θ/ also **face flannel** /'... .., .../ *BrE*||**washcloth** *AmE*— *n* a **FLANNEL**<sup>1</sup> (2) used to wash esp. the face, hands, etc.

**face cream** /'... .., .../ *n* [C;U] (a) thick cream spread on the face, usu. by women, to clean or soften it, or protect it from dryness

**face-less** /'feɪsləs/ *adj* *usu. derog* without any clear character or ordinary human feelings: *Our life is controlled by faceless bureaucrats.*

**face-lift** /'... .., .../ *n* a medical operation to make the face look younger by tightening the skin: (fig.) *This room needs a face-lift. Why don't you put up some new wallpaper?*

**face-off** /'... .., .../ *n* *AmE* **1** (in **ICE HOCKEY**) a way of starting play by dropping the **PUCK** between two players of opposite teams **2** a situation in which opposing groups of people are likely to fight each other: *a face-off between police and rioters*

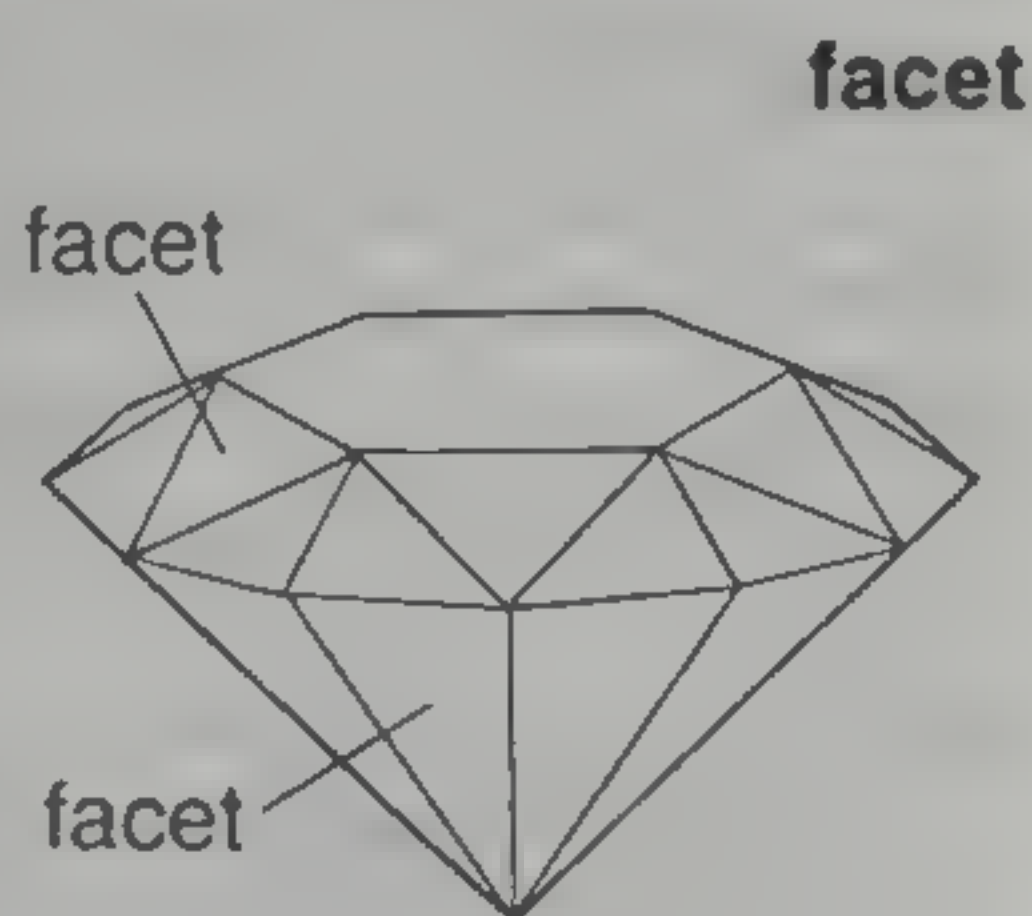
**face pack** /'... .., .../ *n* a cream that is spread over the face and then removed. It is usu. used by women to clean and improve the skin.



**face powder** /'fəʊ-/ *n* [U] a flesh-coloured powder spread on the face, usu. by older women, to make them look or smell nice

**face-sav-ing** /'fəʊ-/ *adj* which allows self-respect to be kept: *a face-saving solution to the dispute* (=by which neither side loses its self-respect) —see also **FACE**<sup>1</sup> (5) —**er** *n*

**fac-et** /'fæsɪt/ *n* **1** any of the many flat sides of a cut jewel or precious stone **2** any of the many parts of a subject to be considered; **ASPECT**: *One needs to consider the various facets of the problem.*



**fa-ce-tious** /fə'si:ʃəs/ *adj* using or tending to use unsuitable jokes; unserious; **FLIPPANT**: *facetious remarks* — **ly** *adv* — **ness** *n* [U]

**face-to-face** /'fetsi:feɪ-/ *adj* [A] within each other's presence or sight: *a face-to-face meeting between the two leaders.*

**face val-ue** /'fetsi:vəl/ *n* **1** [C;U] the value or cost as shown on the front of something, such as a postage stamp: *This stamp has a face value of 25 cents, but it's worth several thousand dollars nowadays.* **2** [U] the value or importance of something as it appears at first: *I was foolish enough to take his remarks at (their) face value; I should have known he was exaggerating.*

**fa-cial**<sup>1</sup> /'feɪʃəl/ *adj* of the face: *She bears a strong facial resemblance to my sister.* — **ly** *adv*

**facial**<sup>2</sup> *n* a women's beauty treatment in which the skin of the face is treated with various substances and may also be massaged (**MASSAGE**)

**fa-cile** /'fæsəl/ *adj* **1** *derog* too easy; not deep; meaningless: *facile remarks* | *a facile conversation* **2** [A] *fml* easily done or obtained: *facile success* — **ly** *adv* — **ness** *n* [U]

**fa-cil-i-tate** /fə'sɪlɪteɪt/ *v* [T] *fml* to make easy or easier; help: *The new underground railway will facilitate the journey to the airport.* — **-tation** /fə'sɪlɪ'teɪʃən/ *n* [U]

**fa-cil-i-ta-tor** /fə'sɪlɪteɪtə/ *n* *AmE* a person who helps an activity to go forward but does not control it: *Joe and Ed are the facilitators of a men's encounter group.*

**fa-cil-i-ties** /fə'sɪlɪtiz/ *n* [P] **1** things such as buildings, shops, or services that are useful or help one to do something: *The house is well situated in reach of good shopping and transport facilities.* | *The school has excellent sporting facilities.* **2** *euph* for **TOILET**: *Where are the facilities?*

**fa-cil-i-ty** /fə'sɪlɪti/ *n* **1** [U (in, with)] *fml* ability to do or perform something easily and well: *her facility with/in languages* **2** [U] *fml* the quality of being able to be done or performed easily: *The facility of this piece of music makes it a pleasure to play.* **3** [C] an arrangement or system that makes a particular activity possible: *The computerized phone has a call-back facility.* | *an overdraft facility at the bank* **4** [C] a place or building used for a particular purpose or activity: *a training/research/storage facility* **5** [C] an advantage; **CONVENIENCE** (2): *A free bus to the airport is a facility offered only by this hotel.*

**fac-ing** /'feɪsɪŋ/ *n* [U] **1** an outer covering or surface of a wall, etc. for protection or decoration **2** additional material sewn into the edges of a garment to improve it, esp. in thickness

**fac-ings** /'feɪsɪŋz/ *n* [P] the collar and parts (**CUFFS**) around the wrists of a garment, esp. a uniform, made in a different colour from the rest of the garment

**fac-sim-i-le** /fæk'sɪmɪli/ *n* [(of)] **1** an exact copy of a picture, piece of writing, etc.: *Many of the drawings are reproduced in facsimile in the catalogue.* | *a facsimile of a famous sculpture* **2** *fml* for a **FAX**

**fact** /fækt/ *n* **1** [C] something that has actually happened or is happening; something known to be or accepted as being true: *I don't want to argue about theories, just about facts.* | *Certain interesting facts about the moon have just been discovered.* | *Don't give me a long account, just tell me the plain/bare facts.* [+ (that)] *The fact that you haven't got these qualifications doesn't necessarily mean you won't be able to enter the university.* | *She didn't answer my letter. The fact (of the matter) is she didn't even read it.* **2** [U] the truth; reality: *"Is this story fact or fiction?"* "It's

*based on fact.*" **3** as a matter of fact/in (actual) fact/in point of fact really; actually: *Officially he is in charge, but in actual fact his secretary does all the work.* | *He doesn't mind. In fact, he's very pleased.* | *"I suppose you haven't finished that report yet?" "I finished it yesterday, as a matter of fact."* —see also **ACCESSORY** (3), **FACT OF LIFE**

▷ **USAGE 1** You can use **in fact** (and as a matter of fact) when you are giving information which adds force to something you have said: *I don't like him; in fact, I hate him.* | *I don't have a car. In fact, I can't drive.* **2** As a matter of fact (and in fact) are also used when you are disagreeing with something someone has said: *"You're always late for work."* "No, I'm not! As a matter of fact I'm nearly always early." | *"He's too old for the job."* "Well, he's younger than you, as a matter of fact." ◁

**fact-find-ing** /'fæktfaɪndɪŋ/ *adj* [A] having as its purpose the discovery and making clear of the facts of a situation: *The government representatives went on a fact-finding mission to Africa to discover how bad the famine really was.*

**fac-tion** /'fæksən/ *n* **1** [C] a group or party within a larger group that disagrees with the rest of the group or with other groups: *There are various factions within the ruling regime.* **2** [U] *fml* argument, disagreement, or fighting within a group or party

**fac-ti-tious** /fæk'tɪʃəs/ *adj* *fml* caused or produced intentionally or by human action; artificial: *A factitious demand for sugar was caused by rumours of shortage.*

**fact of life** /'fæktəvə'laɪf/ *n* something that exists and that cannot (easily) be changed: *Starvation is a fact of life in many countries at the moment.* —see also **FACTS OF LIFE**

**fac-tor** /'fæktə/ *n* **1** [(in)] any of the forces, conditions, or influences that act with others to bring about a result: *The president's support is an important factor in the success of the project.* | *the factors determining the rise in interest rates* **2** [(of)] (in **MATHEMATICS**) a whole number which, when multiplied by one or more whole numbers, produces a given number: *2, 3, 4, and 6 are all factors of 12.* **3** a measurement of how much a particular kind of **SUNTAN OIL** will protect one from the harmful effects of the sun on the skin: *a suntan oil with factor 6* **4** *ScotE* a person who looks after the lands of another **5** *old use* a person who acts or does business for another

**Factor 8** /'fæktə'et/ *n* [U] a **PROTEIN** that helps blood to thicken and which is given to **HAEMOPHILIACS** (=a person without Factor 8 in their blood). It must be checked thoroughly as some people have become infected with **AIDS** after receiving treatment of Factor 8.

**fac-tor-ize** also **-ise** *BrE* /'fæktəraɪz/ also **factor**— *v* [T] *tech* to divide into **FACTORS** (2) — **-ization** /'fæktəraɪ'zeɪʃən/ || **-rə**— *n* [U]

**fac-to-ry** /'fæktəri/ *n* a building or group of buildings where goods are made, esp. in great quantities by machines: *She works in a car factory.* | *factory workers*

**factory farm** /'fæktəri'fɑ:m/ *n* *usu. derog* a farm where animals are kept in small cages and made to grow or produce eggs, milk, etc., very quickly — **factory-farm** *v* — **factory farming** /'fæktəri'fɑ:mɪŋ/ *n* [U]

**factory floor** /'fæktəri'flɔ:/ also **shop floor** *n* [the] the part of a factory where ordinary workers do their jobs, away from the management: *That decision won't go down well on the factory floor.* (=with the workers)

**fac-to-tum** /fæk'təʊtəm/ *n* a servant who has to do all kinds of work

**fact sheet** /'fæktʃi:t/ *n* a piece of paper with only the most important information about something, esp. from a radio or television programme: *Our fact sheet for this week's programme contains both these recipes. Write to...*

**facts of life** /'fæktəvə'laɪf/ *n* [the+P] *euph* the details of sex and how babies are born: *Have you told your son the facts of life yet?* —see also **FACT OF LIFE**

**fac-tu-al** /'fæktʃuəl/ *adj* based (only) on fact: *a factual account of the war* — **ly** *adv*: *factually accurate*

**fac-ult-y** /'fæktɪ/ *n* **1** [(of)] a natural power of the mind or body: *the faculty of hearing/memory* | *He has lost the use of his limbs but he is still in possession of all his faculties.* (=can think, see, hear, etc.) **2** [(for, of)] an ability or skill: *Yes, he does seem to have a faculty for making friends.* **3** (often *cap.*) a group of similar subject departments in a university: *The department of physics*



is in the Faculty of Science. 4 [+sing./pl. v] AmE all the teachers and other professional workers of a school, university, or college

**FA Cup** /ˌef eɪ ˈkʌp/ [the] a football competition open to all AMATEUR and professional football teams in the FA in England and Wales, and arranged by the FA. It is the most PRESTIGIOUS football competition in England: *Liverpool won the FA Cup.* —see also FOOTBALL

**fad** /fæd/ *n* *infml*, often *derog* 1 an interest or activity that is followed very keenly but usu. only for a short time: *His interest in photography is only a passing fad.* | *the latest fad* 2 esp. BrE a set of very particular likes and dislikes. Many children have fads about certain foods: *She's a food-fad.* (=has strong ideas about what she will eat and not eat) —~ *dish* *adj* —~ *dishly* *adv* —*dy* *adj*

**fad di-et** /ˈfæd ˌdiːt/ *n* a DIET of few or strange foods which is supposed to make people lose weight but which is often unsuccessful: *She has tried lots of different fad diets but she is still fat.*

**fade** /feɪd/ *v* 1 [I (AWAY); T] to (cause to) lose brightness, colour, strength, freshness, etc.: *Flowers soon fade when they have been cut.* | *These curtains were once bright green but the sun has faded them.* 2 [I (AWAY)] to disappear or die gradually: *The shapes faded (away) into the night.* | *Hopes of a peace settlement are now fading.*

**fade in/up** *phr v* [I; T (=fade sthg./sbdy. ↔ in/up)] (in film making or broadcasting) to (cause to) appear or be heard gradually: *We fade in the closing music as the hero rides off into the sunset.*

**fade out** *phr v* [I; T (=fade sthg./sbdy. ↔ out)] (in film making or broadcasting) to (cause to) disappear or become silent gradually: *When she started insulting everyone during the television interview they faded her out and showed an advertisement.* —**fadeout** /ˈfeɪdaʊt/ *n*

**fae-ces** also *feces* AmE /ˈfiːsiːz/— *n* [P] *fml* or *tech* the solid waste material passed from the bowels —**faecal** /ˈfiːkəl/ *adj*

**Fae-roe Is-lands**, **Faroe-** /ˈfeərəʊ ˌaɪləndz/ also **Faeroes**, **Faroes** [the+P] a group of islands belonging to Denmark, in the NE Atlantic

**fae-ry**, **faerie** /ˈfeəri/ *n* [U] *poet* the world or power of fairies; the imaginary world of stories —**faery** *adj*

**faff** /fæf/ *v*

**faff about/around** *phr v* [I] BrE *infml* to do unnecessary things without any organization: *Sit down and stop faffing around. I'll do it.*

**fag**<sup>1</sup> /fæg/ *n* BrE *sl* a cigarette

**fag**<sup>2</sup> *n* AmE *derog sl* for HOMOSEXUAL

**fag**<sup>3</sup> *n* *infml*, BrE 1 [S] an unpleasant and tiring piece of work: *Cleaning the oven is a real fag!* 2 [C] (in certain British PUBLIC SCHOOLS) a young pupil who has to do jobs for an older pupil

**fag**<sup>4</sup> *v* -**gg-** [I] *infml*, BrE 1 [(for)] (of a pupil in certain British PUBLIC SCHOOLS) to have to do jobs for an older pupil 2 [(AWAY)] to work hard

**fag end** /ˈfæɡ ɛnd/ *n* *infml* 1 [C] BrE || **cigarette butt** AmE the last bit of a smoked and usu. no longer burning cigarette: *an ashtray full of fag ends* 2 [the+S+of] esp. BrE the very end or last part of something esp. when it is of lower quality or less interesting: *At the fag end of the football season the fans lose interest.*

**fagged** /fægd/ also **fagged out** /ˌfæɡd ˈaʊt/ *adj* [F] *sl*, BrE extremely tired

**fag-got** also **fagot** AmE /ˈfæɡət/ *n* 1 BrE a ball of cut-up meat mixed with bread, which is cooked 2 AmE *derog sl* for HOMOSEXUAL 3 BrE *derog sl* an unpleasant or silly person: *“He thinks he's going to make a lot of money out of it.” “Silly old faggot!”* 4 old use a bunch of small sticks for burning

**fag-hag** /ˈfæɡ ˌhæɡ/ *n* AmE *sl* a woman who likes to spend time with HOMOSEXUAL men rather than with other men

**Fa-gin** /ˈfeɪɡɪn/ *n* a character

**Fagin**



in the story of *Oliver Twist* by Charles Dickens. Fagin is the leader of a group of thieves and is the person who receives and sells the goods that the thieves have stolen.

**Fahd ibn Ab-dul-a-ziz** /ˌfɑːd ɪbən ˌæbduləˈzɪz/, **King** (1923– ) the king of Saudi Arabia since 1982

**Fah-ren-heit** /ˈfærənhaɪt/ *adj*, *n* [A;U] (of or in) a scale of temperature in which water freezes at 32° and boils at 212°: *Is it measured in Fahrenheit or Celsius?* | *a Fahrenheit thermometer* | [after *n*] 32° Fahrenheit equals 0° Celsius. —see CELSIUS (CULTURAL NOTE)

**fai-ence** /faɪˈɑːns, -ˈɒns/ [feɪˈɑːns] *n* [U] cups, dishes, etc. made of baked clay decorated with a GLAZE, of European origin

**fail**<sup>1</sup> /feɪl/ *v* 1 [I; T+to-v; obj] to not do what is expected, wanted, or needed: *I tried to fix it but I failed.* | *If the crops fail (=do not grow) there will be a serious food shortage.* | *She failed miserably (=completely) in her attempt to persuade the committee.* | *The letter failed to arrive.* | *His secretary failed to tell him about the meeting.* | *My grandson never fails to phone me on my birthday.* (=always telephones me) | *I would be failing in my duty if I did not warn you of the dangers of your action.* 2 [I;T] to be unsuccessful in (a test or examination); not pass: *“Why did you fail (your driving test)?” “I went through a red light.”* 3 [T] to judge (someone) to be unsuccessful in a test or examination: *He passed the practical exam but the teachers failed him in the written paper.* 4 [T+to-v; obj; not in progressive forms] *fml* or *pomp* to be unable: *I fail to see why you find it so amusing.* 5 [I] to stop operating properly, or to be unable to continue: *The rocket's engine failed a few seconds after takeoff.* | *When the price of oil doubled many businesses failed.* 6 [T] to disappoint or leave (someone), esp. at a difficult time: *Her friends failed her when she most needed them.* | *At the last moment his courage failed him and he ran away.* | *When I think of all this waste, words fail me.* (=it makes me so angry that I cannot find words to describe it) 7 [I] to lose strength; become weak: *The president's health is failing fast.* | *In the failing light I could hardly see the road in front of me.*

**fail**<sup>2</sup> *n* 1 ||also F AmE— an unsuccessful result in a test: *“What were your results?” “A fail in history and passes in everything else.”* 2 without fail with complete certainty: *I'll bring you that book next time, without fail.*

**fail-ing**<sup>1</sup> /ˈfeɪlɪŋ/ *n* a fault, imperfection, or weakness: *That machine has one big failing: it uses too much fuel.*

**failing**<sup>2</sup> *prep* in the absence or failure of: *You may find her in the cafeteria, or failing that, try the library.*

**fail-safe** /ˈfeɪl ˌseɪf/ *adj* 1 made so that a failure in any part causes the whole machine, plan, etc., to return to a safe, usu. inactive, state: *a fail-safe device/mechanism* 2 that cannot fail: *a fail-safe plan*

**fail-ure** /ˈfeɪljə/ *n* 1 [U] lack of success; act of failing: *His plans ended in failure.* 2 [C] a person, attempt, or thing that fails: *As a writer, he was a complete failure.* | *She had many failures before finding the right method.* | *The party was a dismal failure.* 3 [C;U] the non-performance or non-production of something: *The drought caused crop failure.* | *She died of (a) heart failure.* [+to-v] *The government's failure to carry out their election pledge* 4 [C;U] inability of a business to continue, esp. through lack of money

**fain** /feɪn/ *adv* old use 1 with pleasure: *I would fain stay here for ever.* 2 rather; as a PREFERENCE: *They would fain be wed, but...*

**faint**<sup>1</sup> /feɪnt/ *adj* 1 weak and about to lose consciousness: *He felt faint from lack of food/faint with hunger* 2 lacking clearness, brightness, strength, etc.: *I heard a faint sound in the distance.* | *The colours became fainter and fainter as the sun sank.* | *She made a faint attempt at a smile.* | *faint memories* 3 very small; slight: *Our chances of victory are now very faint.* | (*infml*) *I haven't the faintest idea what you're talking about.* —see also **damn with faint praise** (DAMN<sup>4</sup> (5)) 4 **faint heart never won fair lady** saying you must act with courage or spirit if you want to achieve success —~ *ly* *adv* —~ *ness* *n* [U]

**faint**<sup>2</sup> *v* [I] to lose consciousness unexpectedly: *The young soldier fainted in the hot sun.* | *I nearly fainted when they told me the price.*

**faint**<sup>3</sup> *n* an act or condition of fainting: *She fell down in a (dead) faint.*



**faint-hearted** /fɪˈntˌhɜːd/ *adj* lacking courage or spirit; cowardly — *ly adv* — *ness n* [U]

**fair** /feə/ *adj* 1 free from injustice, dishonesty, or self-interest: *a fair decision* | *You must be fair to both sides.* (=treat them both equally) | *He was late for the meeting but, to be fair, he didn't know about it until this morning.* | *It's not fair! Why should she always have first choice?* | *That was a perfectly fair tackle.* (=allowed by the rules of the game) [F+to-v] *I think it's fair to say that she was not to blame for the accident.* | *They've brought an adjudicator in to see fair play* (=make sure everyone is treated justly) *in the competition.* | *They are determined to win the election by fair means or foul.* (=in any way, honest or dishonest) —opposite **unfair** 2 [no comp.] quite good, large, etc.; reasonable: *His knowledge of the language is fair.* | *Her written work is excellent, but her practical work is only fair-to-middling.* | *She has a fair-sized garden.* | *I think I've got a fair idea* (=a reasonable understanding) *of what the job involves.* | *The builders are making good progress but they still have a fair way to go.* (=quite a lot more to do) 3 (having skin or hair that is) light in colour; not dark: *a fair complexion* 4 (of weather, etc.) not stormy; clear: *a fair sky* 5 favourable to a ship's course: *a fair wind* 6 esp. old use (of a woman) beautiful 7 [A] pleasing but not sincere: *I believed his fair promises.* 8 [A no comp.] *infml* (used to give force to an expression) real: *It's a fair treat to hear her sing.* 9 **fair enough** *infml* all right; satisfactory — see also **FAIRLY** 10 **with my own fair hands** *infml*, *humor* using my own hands 11 **all's fair in love and war** saying in some situations any method of achieving what one wants is acceptable — *ness n* [U]

**fair**<sup>2</sup> also **fair and square** /fɪˈəndˌskwɜː/ *adv* 1 in a just or honest manner, or according to the rules; fairly: *You must play fair (and square).* 2 straight; directly: *I hit him fair (and square) on the nose.*

**fair**<sup>3</sup> *n* 1 esp. *BrE* a place of outdoor entertainment, with large machines to ride on and other amusements; **FUN-FAIR** 2 a market, esp. one held at a particular place at regular periods for selling farm produce: *a cattle fair* 3 *AmE* a yearly event at which farm products and equipment are shown and entered in competitions, and amusements are offered for people of all ages: *the De Kalb County Fair* 4 a very large show of goods, advertising, etc.: *a book fair* 5 an occasion when articles are sold and games are played to raise money for **CHARITY**; **FETE**

**fair copy** /fɪˈkɒpi/ *n* a clean perfect copy of a piece of writing: *My report is finished but it's very messy — I need time to make a fair copy.*

**fair din-kum** /feəˈdɪŋkəm||feər-/ *adj, adv AustrE infml* honest(ly); real(ly)

**fair game** /fɪˈɡeɪm/ *n* [U (for)] someone or something that it is easy or reasonable to attack; an easy **TARGET**: *His idiotic speech was fair game for his opponents.*

**fair-ground** /'feəgraʊnd||'feər-/ *n* an open space on which a **FAIR**<sup>3</sup> (1) is held

**fair-ing** /'feərɪŋ/ *n* a smooth rounded cover for an engine, part of a vehicle, etc., that allows the air to flow smoothly over it

**fair isle** /'fɪˌaɪs/ *n, adj* [U] (a style of **KNITTING** or **KNITTED GARMENT**) having bands of a repeated pattern worked in several colours against a plain background (from **Fair Isle**, one of the Shetland Islands, where the style came from)

**fair-ly** /'feəli||'feərli/ *adv* 1 in a manner that is free from injustice, dishonesty, or self-interest: *I felt they hadn't treated me fairly.* —opposite **unfairly** 2 to some degree; rather; quite: *Cut the meat fairly small, but not too small.* | *It's fairly hot today.* | *a fairly difficult exercise* 3 *infml* completely: *He fairly rocketed past us on his motorbike.*

▷ **USAGE** Compare **fairly**, **rather**, and **quite** when used with adjectives and adverbs. 1 Notice the word order in front of nouns: *It's a fairly/rather good book.* | *It's rather/quite a good book.* 2 **Fairly** is the least strong and **rather** the strongest of the three. Compare *It's a fairly good book* (=not too bad) and *It's a rather good book* (=I really think it's good). 3 **Rather** can sometimes have the meaning "too much": *It's rather warm in here, isn't it?* (=let's open a window) —see also **QUITE** (**USAGE**), **RATHER** (**USAGE**)◀

**fair-minded** /fɪˈmaɪndɪd||'fɪˌmaɪndɪd/ *adj* *apprec* fair in judgment; just; giving equal treatment

**fair play** /fɪˈpleɪ/ *n* [U] 1 playing according to the rules of a game 2 *BrE* just treatment without cheating or dishonesty. British people think of themselves as putting special value on fair play. —see also **CRICKET**

**fair sex** /fɪˈseɪ/ *n* [the] old-fash women considered as a group; **GENTLE SEX**

**fair-way** /'feəweɪ||'feər-/ *n* the part of a **GOLF COURSE** along which one hits the ball in order to get to the **GREEN**<sup>2</sup> (2), where the hole is —see picture at **GOLF**

**fair-weather** /'fɪˌweðər/ *adj* [A] present in times of success but absent in times of trouble (esp. in the phrase **a fair-weather friend**)

fairy



**fai-ry** /'feəri/ *n* 1 a usu. small imaginary figure with magical powers and shaped like a human

► **CULTURAL NOTE** Many British children believe that fairies live at the bottom of their gardens, and British and American children believe that the **TOOTH FAIRY** replaces with money any teeth that come out and are put under their pillows. ◀

2 *derog* a **HOMOSEXUAL** man who behaves in a female way

**fairy god-moth-er** /fɪˈrɪˌɡɒdˌmɒðər/ *n infml* a person who helps, and esp. saves, someone who is in trouble (from a story in which Cinderella, an unhappy young woman, is able to go to a **BALL**<sup>2</sup> only because her fairy godmother suddenly appears and magically produces a beautiful dress and a carriage to take her there) —see also **CINDERELLA** and see colour picture on page 357

**fai-ry-land** /'feərɪlənd/ *n* 1 [U] the land where fairies live 2 [S] a place of delicate and magical beauty

**fairy lights** /'fɪəriˌlaɪts/ *n* [P] *BrE* small coloured lights, esp. those used to decorate a Christmas tree

**Fairy Liquid** /fɪˈrɪˌlɪkwɪd/ also **Fairy tdmk** — *n* [U] *tdmk* a kind of liquid used for washing dishes

**fai-ry-tale** /'feərɪteɪl/ *adj* [A] as if from a fairy tale; magical: *a fairytale castle* | *It was a fairy-tale romance.*

**fairy tale** /'fɪəriˌteɪl/ also **fairy sto-ry** /'fɪəriˌstɔːri/ *n* 1 a story about fairies and other magical people which always ends happily: *Our grandfather knew hundreds of fairy tales, and we always loved to hear them.* 2 a story or account that is hard to believe, esp. one intended to deceive: *Do you really expect me to believe that fairy tale?*

**fait ac-com-pli** /fɛɪt əˈkɒmplɪ||-æˈkɑːmˈpliːz/ *n* **faits accomplis** /fɛɪt əˈkɒmplɪːz||-æˈkɑːmˈpliːz/ something that has already happened or has been done and that cannot be changed: *They have presented us with a fait accompli; I'm afraid there's absolutely nothing we can do about it.*

**faith** /feɪθ/ *n* 1 [U (in)] firm belief; trust; complete confidence: *I'm sure she'll do as she promised. I've got great faith in her.* | *He still has great talent, but he has lost faith in himself.* | *an unshakeable faith in the essential goodness of human nature* 2 [U] (loyalty to one's) word of honour; promise: *I kept/broke faith with them.* | *The government has conducted the negotiations in good/bad faith.* (=sincerely/insincerely) —see also **GOOD FAITH** 3 [U (in)] belief and trust in God: *Had it not been for her great faith (in God), she would have given up.* 4 [C] a system of religious belief; religion: *The ceremony was attended by representatives of the Christian and Jewish faiths.* 5 **faith, hope, and charity** three important good qualities in a Christian, according to Jesus Christ in the



**Bible** **6 O, ye of little faith** *humor* (a phrase used to find fault with someone who has just shown that they have no confidence in something or someone)

**faith-ful**<sup>1</sup> /'feɪθfəl/ *adj* **1** [(to)] full of or showing loyalty: *a faithful friend* | *The dog remained faithful to his master.* **2** true to the facts or to an original: *a faithful account/copy/translation* **3** [(to)] loyal to one's (marriage) partner by having no sexual relationship with anyone else —see also **FIDELITY** — **~ness** *n* [U]

**faithful**<sup>2</sup> *n* **1** [the+P] religious people: *The faithful are gathering in the mosque to pray.* **2** [C] a loyal follower: *At election time we rely on old party faithfuls to help organize things.*

**faith-ful-ly** /'feɪθfəl-i/ *adv* **1** with faith: *You promised faithfully that you would come.* **2** exactly: *I copied the map faithfully.* **3** **Yours faithfully** *esp. BrE* (the usual polite way of ending a formal letter, when addressing someone as Sir, Madam, etc.) —see **YOURS (USAGE)**

**faith heal-ing** /'fæiθleɪŋ/ *n* [U] a method of treating diseases by prayer and religious faith. Only a few people in Britain and the US practise this. —**faith healer** *n*

**faith-less** /'feɪθləs/ *adj fml* disloyal; not deserving trust: *a faithless friend* — **~ly** *adv* — **~ness** *n* [U]

**fake**<sup>1</sup> /feɪk/ *v* **1** [T] to change (something) so that it falsely appears better, more valuable, etc.: *He faked the results of the experiment to prove his theory.* **2** [T] to copy (something) so as to deceive: *He faked my signature to get money from my bank.* —see also **FORGE**<sup>1</sup> **3** [I;T] *infml* to pretend: *She faked illness so that she did not have to go to school.* | *I thought he was really hurt but he was faking* *BrE* | *faking it* *-AmE.* —see also **FEIGN** (1) —**faker** *n*

**fake**<sup>2</sup> *n* a person or thing that is not what he/she/it looks like or pretends to be; a usu. worthless copy of something, intended to deceive: *We thought it was a genuine antique, but it turned out to be a fake.* | *I thought he was a priest but after he robbed me I realized he was a fake.*

**fake**<sup>3</sup> *adj* [A] made and intended to deceive: *a fake antique mirror* | *a fake laugh*

**fake fur** /'fæɪk fɜː/ *n* [C;U] (an article of clothing made from) man-made fur. Fake fur coats are often worn by people who do not agree with killing animals for their fur.

**fa-kir** /'feɪkɪəʳ, 'fæ-, fæ'kɪəʳ||fə'kɪəʳ, fæ-/ *n* a wandering Hindu or Muslim holy man

**fa-laf-el, felafel** /fə'laɪfəl/ *n* a food, originally from the Middle East, which is made from crushed **CHICK PEAS** formed into balls and fried

**fal-con** /'fɔːlkən||'fæl-/ *n* a bird that kills and eats other animals and can be trained to hunt

**fal-con-er** /'fɔːlkənəʳ||'fæl-/ *n* a person who keeps, trains, or hunts with falcons

**fal-con-ry** /'fɔːlkənri||'fæl-/ *n* [U] **1** the art of training falcons to hunt **2** the sport of hunting with falcons

**Falk-lands** /'fɔːkləndz||'fɔːk-/ **Falkland Is-lands** /'fɔːk-||'fɔːk-/ [the+P] a group of islands in the SW Atlantic ocean near Argentina, under British control. Known as the **Malvinas** in Argentina.

**Falklands War** /'fɔːk-||'fɔːk-/ [the] a war between Britain and Argentina in the Falkland Islands in 1982. Britain declared war after Argentina seized the Falkland Islands. The British forces recaptured the Falklands. It is sometimes thought that public support for the Conservative Party, then in power in Britain, and its leader Margaret Thatcher, increased after the Falklands War.

**fall**<sup>1</sup> /fɔːl/ *v* **fell** /fel/, **fallen** /'fɔːlən/ **■** to move to a lower position or level **1** [I] to go down freely from a higher to a lower position or level, e.g. by losing balance or as a result of **GRAVITY**: *Don't walk along the top of the wall. You might fall.* [+adv/prep] *The ripe fruit fell from the tree.* | *Some ash fell off the end of her cigarette.* | *She's not a good rider — she keeps falling off.* | *The roof fell in.* (=sank inwards) | *The snow fell thickly, making travel difficult.* **2** [I (OVER, DOWN)] to come down from a standing position, esp. suddenly and usu. by accident: *She slipped and fell (down).* | *Five runners fell over in the mud.* | *She fell flat on her face.* | *He fell to his knees and begged forgiveness.* **3** [I] to become lower in level, degree, or quantity; drop: *Interest rates fell sharply last week.* | *The water level fell (by) three feet.* | *the falling demand for new cars* | *The temperature fell four degrees.* | *Their voices fell to a whisper.* —opposite **rise** **■** shows a

change in condition: to pass into a different and often less desirable state **4** [I] *esp. fml or lit* to drop down wounded or dead, esp. in battle: *A prayer was said in memory of those who fell in the war.* —see also **FALLEN**<sup>2</sup> **5** [I;L] to pass, esp. suddenly or unintentionally, into a new state or condition; become: [+adj] *He fell ill.* | *She fell asleep.* [+adv/prep] *She fell into a deep sleep.* | *They fell in love.* | *The book was old and soon fell apart.* | *an old law that has fallen into disuse* [+n] *He fell victim to her perfume/fell prey to her charms.* **6** [I] to lose power or a high position: *The government will probably fall at the next election.* | *We must stand or fall together.* **7** [I (to)] to be defeated or taken by force (by): *The city fell (to the enemy).* **8** [I] (of the face) to take on a look of sadness, disappointment, shame, etc., esp. suddenly: *Her face fell when I told her the news.* **■** other meanings **9** [I (on)] to come or happen, as if by descending: *Night fell quickly.* | *A silence fell on the room.* | *His eyes fell on (=he suddenly saw) the body.* | *Christmas falls on a Friday this year.* | *The stress falls on the last syllable of that word.* **10** [I+adv/prep] to hang loosely: *Her hair falls over her shoulders/down her back.* **11** [I+adv/prep] to slope downwards: *The land falls (away) towards the river.* **12** [I (from)] to be spoken: *A few muttered curses fell from his lips.* | *I guessed what was happening by the few remarks she let fall.* (=accidentally made) **13** [I+prep] to belong to a particular area of activity, responsibility, etc.: *These subjects fall under the general heading of "zoology".* | *This matter falls outside the scope of the committee's inquiry.* **14** [I] old use to give in to a wrong or immoral desire: *He was tempted, but did not fall.* —see also **FALLEN**<sup>3</sup> **■** fixed phrases **15** **fall between two stools** *BrE* to be unable to decide between two courses of action and so be unsuccessful with regard to both **16** **fall by the wayside** to no longer try or take part; give up, esp. because of failure or discouragement **17** **fall flat** to fail to produce the desired effect or result: *His jokes fell flat.* (=nobody was amused) **18** **fall foul of** to quarrel, fight, or get into trouble with: *His business methods were not entirely honest, and he soon fell foul of the law.* (=got into trouble with the police) **19** **fall off one's chair** to be very surprised: *I nearly fell off my chair when I heard the news.* **20** **fall on deaf ears** (of advice, warnings, requests, etc.) to be ignored or paid no attention **21** **fall/land on one's feet** *infml* to be successful or fortunate, esp. after being in a difficult situation; have good luck **22** **fall short (of)** to fail to reach (a desired result, standard, etc.): *The council planned to build 100 houses this year but they have fallen short of their target.* —see also **let fall** (**LET**<sup>1</sup>) **■** phrasal verbs

**fall about** *phr v* [I] *BrE, infml* to lose control of oneself (with laughter): *They fell about (laughing/with laughter) when she dropped all the eggs.*

**fall back** *phr v* [I] to move or turn back, esp. because someone is attacking or moving towards one: *The crowd fell back to let the policemen through.*

**fall back on/upon** *sthg. phr v* [T no pass.] to use when there is failure or lack of other means; **RESORT to**: *When I lost my job I was glad I had my savings to fall back on.*

**fall behind** *phr v* **1** [I;T (=fall behind sbdy./sthg.) no pass.] to become gradually further behind: *We can't afford to fall behind our competitors in using new technology.* **2** [I (with)] to fail to produce something at the proper time: *I'm falling behind with my work. I must try to catch up.* | *If you fall behind with the rent you may be thrown out.*

**fall down** *phr v* [I (on)] *infml* to fail or be ineffective: *Where this plan falls down is that it doesn't allow enough time for possible delays.* | *You've been falling down on the job recently. Is there anything troubling you?* —see also **FALL** (1,2)

**fall for** *sthg./sbdy. phr v* [T] **1** to be deceived by: *Don't fall for his tricks.* **2** *infml* to fall in love with, esp. suddenly: *She fell for him in a big way.*

**fall in** *phr v* [I;T (=fall sbdy. ↔ in)] to (cause to) take one's proper place in a military formation: *Fall in, men!* | *The captain fell the soldiers in for inspection.*

**fall into** *sthg. phr v* [T] **1** to begin or have by chance: *I fell into conversation with someone who said he knew you.* **2** to be divided into: *This topic falls naturally into three sections.*

**fall in with** *sbdy./sthg. phr v* [T] **1** *BrE* to agree with or to: *I'm quite happy to fall in with you/with your suggestion.* **2** to meet or begin to mix socially with: *Her son fell in with a bad crowd.*

**fall off** *phr v* [I] to become less in quality, amount, etc.:



*The demand for new cars has fallen off sharply in the last 12 months.*

**fall on/upon** sbdy./sthg. *phr v* [T] 1 to attack eagerly: *The soldiers fell on the enemy.* | (fig.) *The hungry children fell on the food.* 2 **fall on hard times** to lose one's money and social position

**fall out** *phr v* 1 [I (with)] to quarrel: *Jane and Paul have fallen out (with each other) over the education of their children.* 2 [I;T (=fall sbdy. ↔ out)] to (cause to) leave one's place in a military formation: *Fall out, men!* | *The sergeant fell the squad out.* 3 [I+adv] to happen: *Let's wait and see how everything falls out.* | *As things fell out, we were right to be suspicious.*

**fall through** *phr v* [I] to fail to be successfully completed: *The deal fell through at the last minute.*

**fall to** *phr v* 1 [I;T (=fall to sthg.)] to begin: *The meal's all ready, kids. Fall to!* | *They fell to work with a will.* [+v-ing] *He fell to thinking about the early days and his lost friends.* 2 [T (=fall to sbdy.)] to be the (esp. unpleasant) duty of: *It fell to me to break the bad news to her.*

**fall**<sup>2</sup> *n* 1 [C (from)] an act of falling: *She had a bad fall and broke her hip.* | *He fell off the ladder, but some bushes broke his fall.* (=prevented him from falling very hard) —see RISE<sup>2</sup> (USAGE) 2 [C (of)] (the quantity of) something that has fallen: *A fall of rocks blocked the road.* | *We had a heavy fall of snow.* 3 [C (in)] a decrease in quantity, price, demand, degree, etc.: *We have not sold our goods because of the fall in demand.* | *a sudden fall in temperature* | *another fall in the value of the dollar* —opposite rise 4 [S (of)] the distance through which anything falls: *It's a fall of 70 metres to the foot of the cliff.* 5 [the+S (of)] the defeat or loss of power of a city, state, government, etc.: *The fall of France occurred in 1940.* | *the fall of the Marcos regime in 1986* 6 [S (from)] (sometimes *cap.*) a change from a life of goodness, honesty, etc., to one of immorality: *a fall from grace.* 7 [(the) S] AmE for AUTUMN —see also FALLS

**Fall** *n* [the+S] the story in the Bible that tells how Adam and Eve, the first man and the first woman, disobeyed God. According to the story, God forbids Adam and Eve from eating the fruit (sometimes called "the apple") on the Tree of Knowledge in the Garden of Eden. The SERPENT (=snake) persuades Eve to taste the fruit, and then Eve gives the fruit to Adam to eat. They are ashamed of disobeying God and wear FIG leaves because they are also now ashamed of having no clothes on. When they tell God that they have eaten the fruit he sends them out of the Garden of Eden. This story is supposed to describe the way that human beings first learnt about the difference between good and evil.

**fal-lac-i-ous** /fə'leɪʃəs/ *adj fml* containing or based on false reasoning: *a fallacious argument* —~ly *adv*

**fal-la-cy** /'fæləsi/ *n* 1 [C] a false idea or belief: *It's a popular fallacy that success always brings happiness.* 2 [C;U] *fml* false reasoning: *I was able to show the fallacy of his argument.* —see also PATHETIC FALLACY

**fall-back** /'fɔ:l'bæk/ *n* something that can be used when the usual supply, method, activity, etc. fails: *If he doesn't show up for work we've got no fallback.* | *What's the fallback when the engine fails?*

**fall-en**<sup>1</sup> /'fɔ:lən/ *past participle of FALL*: *The road was blocked by a fallen tree.*

**fallen**<sup>2</sup> *n* [the+P] *fml* those soldiers who have been killed in battle or war

**fallen**<sup>3</sup> *adj old-fash* (of a woman) sexually immoral

**fallen ar-ches** /,ˌfɔ:lən/ *n* the hollow parts on the bottom of the feet when these have become flat: *I've got fallen arches.*

**fall guy** /'fɔ:l/ *n infml, esp. AmE* 1 a person who is tricked into being punished for someone else's crime; SCAPEGOAT 2 a person who is easily cheated, tricked, or made to seem a fool

**fal-li-ble** /'fælɪbəl/ *adj* able or likely to make a mistake or be wrong —opposite infallible —bility /'fælɪ'bɪlɪti/ *n* [U]

**falling-out** /,ˌfɔ:lɪŋ/ *n* **fallings-out, falling-outs** a disagreement that may lead to a break in relations: *He had a falling-out with his sister over their parents' estate.*

**falling star** /,ˌfɔ:lɪŋ/ *n* a SHOOTING STAR

**fall line** /'fɔ:l/ *n* the natural slope of a hill (e.g. one used for skiing (SKI)) straight down from top to bottom

**fal-lo-pi-an tube** /fə'ləʊpiən 'tju:b||fə'ləʊpiən tʊb/ *n* either of the two tubes in a female through which eggs pass to the WOMB (=place inside a woman where a child grows)

**fall-out** /'fɔ:lɔ:t/ *n* [U] the dangerous RADIOACTIVE dust that is left in the air after a NUCLEAR explosion: *He built a fallout shelter* (=strong building to keep out fallout) *in his back garden.*

**fall-low** /'fæləʊ/ *adj* (of land) dug or ploughed (PLOUGH) but left unplanted to improve its quality: *The farmer left the land fallow for a year.*

**fallow deer** /'fɔ:l.. / *n* a small deer of Europe and Asia with a light brownish-yellow coat

**falls** /fɔ:lz/ *n* [P] (used esp. in names) a place where a river makes a sudden deep drop; WATERFALL: *Niagara Falls* | *We're going to see the falls.*

**Falls Road** /,ˌfɔ:l/ [the] a street in the Catholic area of Belfast known for the violence which has taken place there

**false**<sup>1</sup> /'fɔ:ls/ *adj* 1 not true or correct: *If you've made a false statement to the police you could be in trouble.* | *They lulled her into a false sense of security.* (=made her feel safe when really she was not) | *The criminal was travelling on a false passport.* 2 not faithful or loyal: *a false friend* 3 not real: *a false door* (=that looks like a door but does not open) | *The clown was wearing a false nose.* 4 [A] careless; unwise: *If you make one false move I'll shoot you!* —~ly *adv* —~ness *n* [U]

**false**<sup>2</sup> *adv* **play someone false** to deceive someone, esp. in love

**false a-larm** /,ˌfɔ:l/ *n* a warning of something bad which does not happen: *Someone shouted "Fire!", but it was a false alarm.*

**false bot-tom** /,ˌfɔ:l/ *n* a piece of wood, cardboard, etc., that looks like the bottom of a box or chest but which in fact hides a secret space

**false dawn** /,ˌfɔ:l/ *n* 1 light which appears in the sky just before DAWN 2 an expectation that something good is about to happen, but which in fact may not happen: *I fear that this ceasefire may be yet another false dawn.*

**false-hood** /'fɔ:lsʊd/ *n fml* 1 [C] an untrue statement; lie 2 [U] the telling of lies; lying

**false im-pris-on-ment** /,ˌfɔ:l/ *n* [U] the putting of someone in prison for no legal reason

**false pre-tenc-es** /,ˌfɔ:l/ *n* [P] **under false pretences** using actions or appearances intended to deceive: *He obtained money from her under false pretences.*

**false start** /,ˌfɔ:l/ *n* an occasion in a race when a runner leaves the starting line too soon: (fig.) *After several false starts, work on the new hospital finally got under way.*

**false teeth** /,ˌfɔ:l/ *n* also **dentures** *fml* — *n* [P] a set of artificial teeth worn by someone who has lost all or most of their natural teeth

**fal-set-to** /fɔ:l'setəʊ/ *adv, n* an unnaturally high man's speaking or singing voice (with): *We really need to find a man who can sing falsetto.*

**fals-ies** /'fɔ:lsɪz/ *n* [P] *infml* pieces of material shaped to cover the breasts and make them seem larger

**fal-si-fy** /'fɔ:lsɪfaɪ/ *v* [T] to make (something, esp. a written or printed paper) false by changing: *They suspected that he had been falsifying the accounts.* —**fi-cation** /,ˌfɔ:lsɪfɪ'keɪʃən/ *n* [C;U]

**fal-si-ty** /'fɔ:lsɪti/ *n* [U] *fml* the quality of being false or untrue

**Fal-staff** /'fɔ:lsta:f||-stæf/ a character from SHAKESPEARE's plays *Henry IV* and *Merry Wives of Windsor*, who is a fat, fun-loving, and likeable person who is not always completely honest: *In Irving's book he is a Falstaffian figure of great geniality and flamboyant tastes.*

**fal-ter** /'fɔ:lɪtə/ *v* 1 [I] to walk or move unsteadily through weakness, fear, etc.: *When the sick man faltered, the nurse took his arm.* | *a baby's first faltering steps* 2 [I] to lose strength of purpose or action; HESITATE: *Don't falter in your resolve now that success is so near.* 3 [I] to lose strength or effectiveness; weaken: *The business faltered badly last year but it seems to be recovering now.* | *the president's faltering popularity* 4 [T (OUT)] to say in a weak and broken manner: *Trembling with shock, she managed to falter out a few words of thanks.* —~ingly *adv*



**Falwell** /'fɔ:lweɪ/, Jerry (1933– ) an American EVANGELIST who started a religious and political group called Moral Majority, Inc. He attracted millions of followers by talking about Christianity on American television. — see also MORAL MAJORITY

**fame** /feɪm/ *n* [U] the condition of being well known and talked about; RENOWN: *She won overnight (=sudden) fame with her first novel.* | *The village's only claim to fame is that the Queen once visited it.*

**famed** /feɪmd/ *adj* [(for)] well known; famous: *This area is famed for its natural beauty.* | *Marianne Welch, daughter of famed novelist Henry Welch*

**fa-mil-i-al** /fə'mɪliəl/ *adj* [A] *fml* (typical) of a family

**fa-mil-i-ar** /fə'mɪliə/ *adj* 1 [(to)] generally known, seen, or experienced; common: *St Paul's cathedral is a familiar sight (to all Londoners).* | *She looks very familiar (=I have seen her before) but I can't remember her name.* | *Her account of the breakdown of her marriage was a familiar story (=typical of marriage breakdowns) to the psychiatrist.* 2 [F+with] having a thorough knowledge (of); CONVERSANT: *I am not really familiar with the taxation laws here.* —opposite **unfamiliar** 3 too friendly, esp. in a way which shows lack of respect: *She told the taxi-driver not to be so familiar.* 4 without tight control; informal: *He wrote in an easy familiar style.* —see also FAMILIARLY

**familiar** <sup>2</sup> *n* 1 also **familiar spir-it** /ˌfæmɪliə'spɪrɪt/ — a spirit or devil that serves a particular person, such as a WITCH 2 old use a close friend; companion: *the duke and his familiars*

**fa-mil-i-ar-i-ty** /fə'mɪliə'rɪti/ *n* 1 [U+with] thorough knowledge (of): *His familiarity with the language/the rules impressed us all.* 2 [U] the freedom of behaviour usu. only expected in the most friendly relations: *They greeted each other with such familiarity that we thought they must be brother and sister.* 3 [C usu. pl.] *fml* an act or expression of such freedom: *his unwelcome familiarities* 4 **familiarity breeds contempt** saying knowing a person very well leads to knowing their faults, and allows disrespect and dislike to develop

**fa-mil-i-ar-ize** also **-ise** *BrE* /fə'mɪliəraɪz/ *v* [T (with)] to make (someone, esp. oneself) well informed (about): *You should familiarize yourself with the rules before you start to play the game.*

**fa-mil-i-ar-ly** /fə'mɪliəli/ *adv* in an informal, easy, or friendly manner: *Charles, familiarly known as Charlie*

**fam-i-ly** /'fæməli/ *n* 1 [C+sing./pl. v] one's parents, grandfather and grandmother, brothers and sisters, uncles, aunts, etc.: *My family is very large/close.* | *My family are all tall.* | *The whole family came to visit us at Christmas.* | *He's a friend of the family.* | *a family gathering|occasion* 2 [C+sing./pl. v] a group of one or usu. two adults and their children living in the same home: *Do you know the family who've just moved in next door?* | *It's a film for all the family|a family film.* (=suitable for children as well as older people) | *a single-parent family*

► **CULTURAL NOTE** In Britain and the US usually only the mother, father, and children live together, not the grandparents. ◀

3 [C+sing./pl. v] all those people descended from a common person (ANCESTOR): *Our family has/have lived in this house for over a hundred years.* | *a noble family* 4 [S;U] children: *Have you any family?* | *We won't start a family (=begin to have children) until we've been married a few years.* 5 [C] *tech* a group of related animals, plants, languages, etc.: *The cat family includes lions and tigers.* | *Spanish belongs to the same language family as Italian, both being descended from Latin.* 6 **in the 'family way** *old-fash euph* going to give birth to a child; PREGNANT

**family al-low-ance** /ˌfæmɪli'æləns/ *n* [U] the old name for CHILD BENEFIT

**family cir-cle** /ˌfæmɪli'sɪrkl/ *n* [(the) S] the closely related members of a family: *Don't say anything about it outside the family circle.*

**Family Circle** a magazine for women containing information about food, the family, health, with short stories, etc.

**family cred-it** /ˌfæmɪli'kredɪt/ *n* [U] (in Britain) money offered by the government to working parents on a low income. The amount varies according to the income and the number

of children in the family; formerly **family income supplement** —see also EARNED INCOME CREDIT

**family doc-tor** /ˌfæmɪli'dɒktə/ *n infml* for GENERAL PRACTITIONER

**family in-come sup-ple-ment** /ˌfæmɪli'ɪnkəmsuplɪmənt/ *n* [U] see FAMILY CREDIT

**Family Income Sup-port** /ˌfæmɪli'ɪnkəmsʌpɔrt/ *n* [U] (in Britain) money given by the government to people who are unemployed and have children

**family man** /ˌfæmɪli'mæn/ *n* 1 a man with a wife and children 2 a man who is fond of home life

**family name** /ˌfæmɪli'neɪm/ *n* a SURNAME

**family pack** /ˌfæmɪli'pæk/ *n* a large packet of food, etc. sold in shops which would be enough for a whole family: *Try and get a family pack of tissues, will you?*

**family plan-ning** /ˌfæmɪli'plænɪŋ/ *n* [U] the controlling of the number of children born in a family and of the time of their birth by the use of any of various CONTRACEPTIVE methods: *a family planning clinic*

**Family Plan-ning As-so-ci-a-tion** /ˌfæmɪli'plænɪŋ ˌæsosi'eɪʃən/ [the] a British private organization which gives free advice on family planning. The main American organization of this kind is called Planned Parenthood.

**family prac-tice** /ˌfæmɪli'præktɪs/ *n* [U] *AmE* a speciality in American medicine in which doctors learn to treat general health problems and problems connected with families and people of all ages —see also GENERAL PRACTICE **family practitioner** /ˌfæmɪli'præktɪʃənə/ *n*

**family tree** /ˌfæmɪli'tri/ *n* a plan or drawing showing the relationship of the members of a family, esp. one that covers a long period. In Britain and the US, many people like to spend time finding out about their family tree.

**fam-ine** /'fæmɪn/ *n* [C;U] (a case of) extreme lack of food for a very large number of people: *Many people die of starvation during famines every year.* | *an appeal for famine relief in Ethiopia*

**fam-ished** /'fæmɪʃt/ *adj* [F] *infml* very hungry

**fa-mous** /'feɪməs/ *adj* 1 very well known, esp. for a special ability, quality, or feature: *a famous actor* | *a world-famous painting by Renoir* | *France is famous for its fine food and wine.* 2 [A] (of an event) likely to be widely talked about or remembered; REMARKABLE: *The Labour Party may be on the verge of a famous victory.* 3 *old-fash* very good; excellent: *famous weather for a walk* 4 **famous last words** a phrase used when someone has said something that expresses cheerfulness and certainty about the future, to warn them that they might be wrong: *"I'm sure I'll pass my driving test this time."* *"Famous last words."*

► **USAGE** Compare **famous**, **well-known**, **distinguished**, **eminent**, **notorious**, and **infamous**. 1 **Famous** is like **well-known** but is a stronger word and means "known over a wide area": *the doctor, the postman and other well-known people in the village* | *A famous film star has come to live in our village.* 2 **Distinguished** and **eminent** are used especially of people who are famous for serious work in science, the arts etc.: *a distinguished writer* | *an eminent surgeon.* 3 **Notorious** means "famous for something bad": *He was notorious for his evil deeds.* 4 **Infamous** (rather literary) can mean the same as **notorious** if it is followed by a noun: *an infamous criminal*, but it can also mean merely wicked or evil (not necessarily famous): *His crimes were infamous, but few people knew about them.* ◀

**Famous Five** /ˌfæməs'faɪv/ [the] a group of characters in children's books by Enid Blyton. The Famous Five, four children and a dog, have many adventures together.

**fa-mous-ly** /'feɪməsli/ *adv* *old-fash infml* extremely well: *He is getting on famously at his new school.*

**fan** /fæn/ *n* an instrument for making a flow of air, esp. cool air, such as an arrangement of feathers or paper in a half circle waved by hand, or a set of broad blades turned by a motor: *a paper|electric fan* | *an extractor fan in a kitchen to get rid of the smell of cooking* —see picture at ENGINE; see also **the shit will hit the fan** (SHIT)

**fan** <sup>2</sup> *v -nn-* 1 [T] to cause air, esp. cool air, to blow on (something) (as if) with a fan: *She fanned her face with a newspaper.* | *We fanned the fire to make it burn brighter.* 2 [T] to cause to become more active or more serious: *This incident could fan the flame(s) of rebellion.* | *His*



*rudeness fanned her irritation into anger.* **3** [I;T (OUT)] to spread in a gradually widening half circle: *The soldiers fanned out across the hillside in their search for the man.* | *She fanned the pack of cards out.*

**fan<sup>3</sup>** *n* a very keen follower or supporter of a sport, performing art, famous person, etc.: *football fans* | *I'm one of your greatest fans.* | *She's an ardent Bruce Springsteen fan; she's joined his fan club.* | *That singer has to employ two people just to answer his fan mail.* (=letters sent to him by fans)

**fan-as-sist-ed** /,fən'æsɪstəd/ *adj* (of OVENS) with the heat being moved around the whole oven by a fan: *I think fan-assisted ovens dry out the food too much.*

**fa-nat-ic** /fə'nætɪk/ *n* often derog a person who shows very great and often unreasoning keenness for something, esp. for a religious or political belief: *The heathen temple was torn down by a crowd of religious fanatics.* | *a health food fanatic* — **~al** *adj* — **~ally** /kli/ *adv*

**fa-nat-i-cis-m** /fə'nætɪsɪzəm/ *n* [U] the behaviour, character, or ideas of a fanatic

**fan belt** /'fæn.belt/ *n* a continuous belt driving a FAN to keep an engine cool — see picture at ENGINE

**fan-ci-er** /'fænsiə/ *n* (usu. in comb.) a person who has the stated interest, esp. someone who breeds or trains certain types of birds, dogs, plants, etc.: *a pigeon-fancier*

**fan-ci-ful** /'fænsɪfəl/ *adj* **1** often derog produced by the imagination; not based on reason or good sense: *He had some fanciful notion about crossing the Atlantic in a barrel.* **2** full of often strange decorative detail; ELABORATE: *fanciful designs* — **~ly** *adv*

**fan-cy<sup>1</sup>** /'fænsi/ *n* **1** [C (to)] a liking, esp. one formed without the help of reason: *I think young Peter has taken quite a fancy to* (=likes or is sexually attracted to) *that girl next door.* **2** [U] imagination, esp. in a free and undirected form: *She went wherever the/her fancy took her.* (=without a fixed or clear plan made in advance) | *The painting caught/took his fancy* (=he liked it), *so he bought it.* **3** [C] *fml* an opinion or idea that is not based on fact; NOTION: *Take no notice — it's just an old woman's fancy.*

**fancy<sup>2</sup>** *v* [T] *esp. BrE* **1** *infml* *a* to have a liking for; wish for: *I fancy a swim.* [+*v-ing*] *I don't fancy going all that way in such bad weather.* *b* to be sexually attracted to: *I really fancy that new secretary.* **2** (usu. in imperative to express surprise, shock, etc.) *infml* to form a picture of; imagine: *"He had no clothes on."* "Fancy that!" [+*v-ing*] *Fancy working in this heat every day!* (=How unpleasant to work in such heat!) [+*obj+v-ing*] *Fancy her saying a thing like that!* **3** to consider to be likely to do well: *I fancy Black Queen for the 4.30.* (=I think that this horse may win the 4.30 race) | *I don't fancy your chances of getting a ticket at this late stage.* (=I don't think you will be able to) **4** [+*(that)*; *obj*] *fml* to believe without being certain; think: *I fancy I have met you before.* **5** a little of what you fancy does you good the title of an old British MUSIC HALL song, now used when you are going to have or do something that is considered to be slightly wrong **6** *fancy oneself* often derog to have a very high opinion of oneself: *You can tell from the way she parades around in her fine clothes that she really fancies herself.* | *He fancies himself (as) a good swimmer.*

**fancy<sup>3</sup>** *adj* **1** decorative or brightly coloured; not ordinary; ELABORATE: *fancy cakes* | *They are too fancy for me; I prefer the plain ones.* | *It was a simple lunch — nothing fancy.* **2** derog (of a price) higher than is usual or reasonable: *He sells poor goods and charges fancy prices.*

**fancy dress** /,fænɪ.dres/ *BrE* || **masquerade** *AmE* — *n* [U] unusual or amusing clothes worn for a special occasion or party. There are different types of fancy dress. Sometimes people dress to look like a famous person from history, and sometimes to look like a person with a particular job, e.g. a CLOWN or a POLICEMAN: *I went to the fancy-dress party/ball dressed as a pirate.* | *Do you know where I can get a fancy-dress costume?*

**fancy-free** /,fænɪ.fri/ *adj* free to do anything or like anyone, esp. because one is not in love: *Since my divorce I've been really happy — footloose and fancy-free again!*

**fancy man** /'fænɪ.mæn/ *n* old-fash derog a woman's lover

**fancy wom-an** /'fænɪ.wʊ.mən/ *n* old-fash derog **1** a man's lover; MISTRESS **2** a PROSTITUTE

**fan-cy-work** /'fænsi.wɜ:k/ || -wɜ:rk/ *n* [U] decorative sewing; EMBROIDERY

**fan-dan-go** /fæn'dæŋgəʊ/ *n* -gos **1** [C] (the music for) a very active Spanish or South American dance **2** [U] *AmE* foolish, noisy behaviour

**fan-fare** /'fænfə/ *n* a short loud ceremonial piece of usu. TRUMPET music played to introduce a person or event: *to sound a fanfare* | (fig.) *The dictator's secret diaries were published with due fanfare.*

**fang** /fæŋ/ *n* a long sharp tooth of an animal, such as a dog or a poisonous snake

**fan-light** /'fænlaɪt/ *BrE* || **transom, transom window** *AmE* — *n* a small window over a door or a larger window

**Fan-nie Mae** /,fæni 'meɪ/ an American financial institution which buys and sells LOANS and MORTGAGES to banks and other institutions, but does not deal directly with ordinary borrowers

**fan-ny** /'fæni/ *n* *sl* **1** *AmE* the part of the body on which one sits; BOTTOM<sup>1</sup> (3) **2** *BrE* *taboo* the outer sex organs of a woman

**fan-ta-si-a** /fæn'teɪziə, fæntə'ziə/ || fæn'teɪzə/ *n* **1** a piece of music that does not follow any regular style **2** a piece of music made up of a collection of well-known tunes

**Fan-ta-si-a** /fæn'teɪziə || -zə/ a film made by the Walt Disney company in 1940 in which CARTOON characters dance to CLASSICAL (2) music

**fantas-ize** also -ise *BrE* /'fæntəsaɪz/ *v* [I (about); T+that; *obj*] to form strange or wonderful ideas in the mind: *She fantasized about winning the lottery.* | *He fantasized about meeting Marilyn Monroe.*

**fan-tas-tic** /fæn'tæstɪk/ *adj* **1** *infml* extremely good; wonderful: *a fantastic meal* | *You look fantastic!* **2** extremely great or large: *She won a fantastic sum of money in the casino.* **3** (of an idea, plan, etc.) too extreme or unrelated to reality to be practical or reasonable; PREPOSTEROUS: *Your proposals are utterly fantastic; we couldn't possibly afford them.* **4** odd, strange, or wild in shape, meaning, etc.; not controlled by reason: *He was troubled by fantastic dreams.* — **~ally** /kli/ *adv* : *fantastically expensive*

**fan-ta-sy** /'fæntəsi/ *n* **1** [U] imagination, esp. when unlimited or allowed complete freedom **2** [C;U] something produced from free imagination, whether expressed in words or not: *The whole story is a fantasy.* | *He lives in a world of fantasy.* | *sexual fantasies* **3** [U] stories about imaginary worlds which often involve magic. The characters are often searching for an object which will cause good to win over evil, and they usu. fight with swords rather than modern weapons. — compare SCIENCE FICTION

**fan-zine** /'fænzɪn/ *n* a magazine written by and for very keen supporters of a particular performer, sports team etc. Fanzines are usu. written without official approval and are known for their strong opinions and lack of respect for people in authority.

**FAO** /,ef eɪ 'əʊ/ [the] Food and Agriculture Organization; a part of the United Nations which aims to improve the production and DISTRIBUTION of AGRICULTURE in developing countries

**far<sup>1</sup>** /fɑ:ʔ/ *adv* **farther** /'fɑ:ðə/ || 'fɑ:r-/ or **further** /'fɜ:ðə/ || 'fɜ:r-/ , **farthest** /'fɑ:ðɪst/ || 'fɑ:r-/ or **furthest** /'fɜ:ðɪst/ || 'fɜ:r-/ **1** at, to, or from a great distance; a long way: *We didn't go (very) far.* | *Have you come far?* [+*adv*] *prep* | *We walked far into the woods.* | *They travelled far from home.* | *How far is it to the station?* | (fig.) *I don't know how far* (=how much) *I should believe him.* | (fig.) *A pound doesn't go very far* (=buy much) *these days.* | (fig.) *She's an excellent young musician; she should go far.* (=be very successful in the future) | (fig.) *Her rudeness went too far.* (=she was too rude) | (fig.) *You're taking/carrying that joke too far.* (=going beyond what is acceptable) **2** [+*prep*, esp. *into*] at or to a great distance in time: *They worked far into the night.* | *We can't plan far beyond August.* | *He can see far into the future.* **3** very much: *It's far too hot in this room; open the windows.* | *Tell him to go away; I'm far, far too busy to see him.* | *The film is far better/worse than the book.* | *She is by far the best teacher.* | *She is the best teacher by far.* — see MORE (USAGE) **4** as/so far as to the degree that: *I will help you as far as I can.* | *So far as I know, they're coming by car.* *BrE* | *As far as I know* *AmE* **5** far and away by a great deal or amount; very much: *She is far and away*



the best actress in the country. **6 far and wide** also **far and near** — everywhere: *They looked far and wide for the missing dog.* | *People came from far and near to see the Pope.* **7 far be it from me to** (used esp. to show disagreement or disapproval) I certainly would not want to: *Far be it from me to interfere in your work, but isn't this rather an impractical idea?* **8 far from:** a very much not; a long way from being; not at all: *I'm far from pleased with your behaviour.* | *She is not a good driver — far from it!* **b** also **so far from** — rather than; instead of; the opposite of: (So) *far from taking my advice, he went and did just what I had warned him against.* **9 in so far as** also **in as far as, insofar as** — to the degree that: *I'll help you in so far as I can.* **10 it is a far, far better thing I do than I have ever done** quote a phrase from the book *A Tale of Two Cities* by Charles Dickens, said by the main good character of the book when he is about to give his own life to save that of someone else **11 so far:** a up to the present: *He's had three wives so far.* | *"Have you met your new neighbour?" "Not so far."* **b** to a certain point, degree, distance, etc.: *When the level reaches so far, stop the flow.* | *I can only trust him so far.* | *We can extend your loan so far and no further.* **12 So far, so good** Things are satisfactory up to this point, at least: *We're over the wall. So far, so good. Now we've got to swim the river.* — see **FARTHER<sup>2</sup>** (USAGE)

▷ **USAGE** **Far** is usually used in questions or negatives about distance: *How far did you walk?* | *Did you walk far?* | *No, we didn't walk far.* It is also used in simple statements after *too*, *as* and *so*: *We walked as far as the river.* | *We walked much too far.* Compare: *We walked a long way*/(**far** could not be used here except in very formal or literary writing).<

**far<sup>2</sup> adj** **farther or further, farthest or furthest** **1** being a long way away: *Let's walk back to the office; it's not far.* | *In the far distance I saw a rider approaching.* | (*lit or poet*) *He lives in a far country.* **2** [A] also **farther**— (of one of two things) more distant: *She swam to the far side of the lake.* | *It's in a cupboard at the far end of the room.* **3** [A] (of a political position) very much to the **LEFT** or **RIGHT**; extreme: *the far left* | *a supporter of far right ideas* **4 a far cry from** completely different and often less good than: *The present economic situation is a far cry from the one predicted by the previous government.*

**Far-a-day** /'færədeɪ/, **Mi-chael** /'maɪkəl/ *n* (1791–1867) an English **CHEMIST** and **PHYSICIST** who discovered the connection between electricity and **MAGNETISM** and produced the first **DYNAMO**

**far-a-way** /'færəweɪ/ *adj* [A] **1** distant: *faraway places* **2** (of the look in a person's eyes) dreamy, as if looking at or thinking about something distant

**farce** /fɑːs/ *n* **1** [C] a light humorous play full of silly things happening **2** [U] the branch of theatrical writing concerned with this type of play **3** [C] an occasion or set of events that is silly and empty and pretending to be something which it is not; **SHAM**: *The talks with the unions were a farce, since the politicians had already made the decision.* —**farcical** *adj* —**farcically** *adv*

**fare<sup>1</sup>** /feə/ *n* **1** [C] (often in *comb.*) the price charged to carry a person by bus, train, taxi, plane, etc.: *to pay one's train fare* | *The bus company will prosecute any fare dodgers* (=people who try to avoid paying their fares) *it catches.* **2** [C] a paying passenger in a taxi **3** [U] anything intended to provide enjoyment, esp. food provided for a meal: *good/simple/standard fare* | *an evening of diverse musical fare* —see also **BILL OF FARE**

**fare<sup>2</sup>** *v* [I+*adv*] **1** to get on; succeed: *I think I fared quite well in the interview.* **2** to experience treatment in the stated way: *The unions will fare badly if the government's plan becomes law.*

**Far East** /,fɑː'ɪst/ *n* [*the*] the countries in Asia that are east of India, such as China, Japan, etc. —compare **MIDDLE EAST**, **NEAR EAST** — ~ **ern** *adj*

**fare-well** /feə'wel/ *interj*, *n* *fml* or *old use* goodbye: *Farewell! I hope we meet again soon.* | *It's time to say our farewells.* | *a farewell party*

**far-fetched** /,fɑː'fetʃt/ *adj* too improbable to be believed or accepted: *He told us a farfetched story about the president asking for his advice.*

**far-flung** /,fɑː'flʌŋ/ *adj* **1** spread over a great distance: *Our*

*far-flung trade connections cover the world.* **2** distant; **REMOTE**: *in a far-flung corner of the empire*

**Far From the Mad-ding Crowd** /,fɑː frəm ðə 'mædɪŋ 'kraʊd/ *a book* by Thomas Hardy about the lives of country people in mid-Victorian Dorset. The phrase is now sometimes used humorously when talking about the peace and quiet of the country.

**far-gone** /,fɑː'gɒn/ *adj* [**F (in)**] *infml* in an advanced state, esp. of something unpleasant such as madness, debt, or being drunk: *You're too far-gone (=drunk) to drive; get a taxi.*

**far-i-na-ceous** /,færɪ'neɪʃəs/ *adj tech* consisting of or containing flour or **STARCH**: *Bread, potatoes, and pasta are all farinaceous foods.*

**farm<sup>1</sup>** /fɑːm/ *n* **1** an area of land, together with its buildings, concerned with the growing of crops or the raising of animals: *We work on the farm.* | *a sheep/dairy/fruit farm* | *a farm labourer* **2** a farmhouse —see also **FACTORY FARM**, **FISH FARM**, **FUNNY FARM**

**farm<sup>2</sup>** *v* [I;T] to use (land) for growing crops, raising animals, etc.: *We farm a hundred acres of arable land.*

**farm** sthg./sbdy. ↔ **out** *phr v* [**T (on)**] to arrange for someone else to deal with (work) or take care of (children) instead of oneself: *We have more work here than we can deal with — can we farm some out?* | *They're always farming out their children on their relatives.*

**farm belt** /,fɑːm'beɪlt/ *n* an area of land used for farming esp. the central plains of the US

**farm-er** /'fɑːmə/ *n* a person who owns or manages a farm: *a sheep/coconut farmer* —see also **SMALL FARMER**

**Farmer, Fan-nie** /'fæni/ (1857–1915) the writer of a popular American cookbook used by many people

**Farmer John** /,fɑːmər'joʊn/ *n* *tdmk* a company in the US which sells meat products such as **BACON** and **HOT DOGS**

**farm-hand** /'fɑːmhænd/ *n* a person who works on a farm; **farm LABOURER**

**farm-house** /'fɑːmhaʊs/ *n* also **farm—** *n* -**houses** /haʊzɪz/ the main house on a farm, where the farmer lives

**farm-ing** /'fɑːmɪŋ/ *n* [**U**] the practice or business of being in charge of or working on a farm: *new methods in dairy farming* —see also **MIXED FARMING**

**farm la-bour-er** /,fɑːm'leɪbərə/ *n* a person who works on a farm, but who does not own the farm

**farm-land** /'fɑːmlænd/ *n* [**U**] land used or suitable for farming, esp. cultivated land or **PASTURE**

**farm-stead** /'fɑːmsted/ *n* esp. *AmE* a farmhouse and its surrounding buildings

**farm-yard** /'fɑːmjɑːd/ *n* also **barnyard**— *n* a yard surrounded by farm buildings

**Farn-bo-rough Air Show** /,fɑːnbərəʊə 'eə,ʃəʊ/ *n* [*the*] a large international event where different types of aircraft are shown, held every two years at Farnborough, England

**Fa-roes** /'feərəʊz/ [*the*] see **FAEROE ISLANDS**

**far-off** /,fɑː'ɒf/ *adj* distant in space or time: *in the far-off days of my youth*

**far-out<sup>1</sup>** /,fɑː'ɒt/ *adj* **1** *old-fash infml* very different or unusual; strange: *far-out ideas* **2** *AmE sl* extremely good; wonderful: *a far-out party*

**far out<sup>2</sup>** *interj* *AmE sl* (an expression of admiration or happiness): *Far out! Tickets to the concert!* | *You're coming to visit? Far out!*

**far-ra-go** /fə'raːgəʊ, fə'reɪ-/ *n* -**goes** [(of)] *derog* a confused collection; mixture: *The whole story was a farrago of lies and deceit.*

**far-reach-ing** /,fɑː'reɪʃɪŋ/ *adj* having a wide influence or effect: *The splitting of the atom had far-reaching consequences.*

**far-ri-er** /'færiə/ *n* a person, usu. a **BLACKSMITH**, who makes and fits shoes for horses

**far-row** /'færəʊ/ *v* [**I**] *tech* (of a female pig) to give birth to a **LITTER** of young pigs

**Farrow, Mi-a** /'miːə/ (1946– ) an American actress who often works with Woody Allen and whose films include *Rosemary's Baby* and *Hannah and Her Sisters*

**Far-si** /'fɑːsi/ *n* [**U**] the Persian language of modern Iran —see **PERSIAN<sup>2</sup>**

**Far Side** /,fɑː'saɪd/ *n* *The* a **CARTOON** by the American artist Gary Larson, which appears in newspapers, and is



known for its wild and silly humour, often involving animals that act like people

**far-sight-ed** /ˌfɑː'saɪtɪd/ || ˌfɑːr-/ *adj* 1 also **far-see-ing** /ˌfɑː'siːɪŋ/ || ˌfɑːr-/ *apprec* able to see the future effects of present actions: *the government's far-sighted measures to combat the drugs problem* —opposite **shortsighted** 2 *esp. AmE* for **LONGSIGHTED** — *~ly adv* — *~ness n* [U]

**fart**<sup>1</sup> /fɑːt/ || ˌfɑːrt/ *v* [I] *taboo* to send out air from the bowels through the ANUS

**fart about/around** *phr v* [I] *infml* to spend time in pointless, aimless, or worthless activity

**fart**<sup>2</sup> *n* *taboo* 1 an escape of air from the bowels 2 *sl* a stupid and uninteresting person: *He's a boring old fart.*

**far-ther**<sup>1</sup> /ˌfɑːðə/ || ˌfɑːr-/ *adv* (*comparative* of **FAR**<sup>1</sup>) 1 at or to a greater distance or more distant point; further: *Let's not walk any farther.* [+*adv/prep*] *They pushed the boat farther into the water.* | *They drove three miles farther down the road.* | *The explosion could be heard ten miles away, and even farther afield.* (=farther away) 2 to a greater degree; further: *We can't take this plan any farther (ahead) until the funding is approved.*

**farther**<sup>2</sup> *adj* [A] (*comparative* of **FAR**<sup>2</sup>) more distant; **FAR**<sup>2</sup> (2): *On the farther side of the street there was a row of small shops.*

▷ **USAGE** When speaking of real places and distances you can use either **farther**, **farthest** or **further**, **furthest**: *farther/further down the road* | *What's the farthest/furthest place you've ever been to?* In other cases, especially with the meaning "more", "extra", "additional" **further**, **furthest** are usu. used: *a college of further education* | *for further information write to the above address.* ◁

**farthest** /ˌfɑːðɪst/ || ˌfɑːr-/ *adj, adv* (*superlative* of **FAR**) most far: *Who can swim (the) farthest?* [+*adv/prep*] *Which of these cities is farthest (away) from London?* —see **FARTHER** (**USAGE**)

**far-thing** /ˌfɑːðɪŋ/ || ˌfɑːr-/ *n* a former British coin worth one quarter of an old **PENNY**

**fa-scia** /ˌfeɪʃə/ *n* 1 a long band or board on the surface of something, esp. one over a shop bearing the shop's name 2 *BrE* *old-fash* the instrument board in a car; **DASHBOARD**

**fas-ci-nate** /ˌfæsɪneɪt/ *v* [T] 1 to attract and hold the interest or attention of: *Anything to do with old myths and legends fascinates me.* | *I was fascinated to see how skillfully the old craftsman worked.* | *The students were fascinated with/by his ideas.* 2 to fix with the eyes so as to take away the power of movement, as a snake does with a small creature — **nation** /ˌfæsɪˈneɪʃən/ *n* [S;U]: *Chinese art has a great fascination for me.* | *The beautiful woman exercised a strange fascination over him.*

**fas-ci-nat-ing** /ˌfæsɪneɪtɪŋ/ *adj* extremely interesting and charming: *a fascinating old city full of ancient buildings* | *I find her books quite fascinating.* — *~ly adv*

**fas-cis-m** /ˌfæfɪzəm/ *n* [U] (*often cap.*) a political system in which all industrial activity is controlled by the state, no political opposition is allowed, military strength is approved of, support of one's own nation and race is strongly encouraged, and **SOCIALISM** is violently opposed

**fas-cist** /ˌfæfɪst/ *n, adj* 1 (*often cap.*) (a supporter) of fascism 2 *derog* (someone) acting in a cruel, hard, rather military way which allows no (political) opposition: *As the riot police advanced the students shouted, "Leave us alone, you fascist pigs!"*

**fashion**<sup>1</sup> /ˌfæʃən/ *n* 1 [C;U] the way of dressing or behaving that is usual or popular at a certain time: *Fashions have changed since I was a girl.* | *Narrow trousers are the latest fashion.* | *It's not the fashion to send children away to school now.* | *We like to keep up with fashion/with the latest fashions.* | *a fashion show* (=of clothes) | *a fashion house* (=company that produces clothes) | *Long hair is out of/in fashion* (=not) considered very modern) now. | *My teenage daughter is very fashion-conscious.* 2 [U] changing custom, esp. in women's clothing: *a book about the history of fashion* 3 [S] rather *fml* a manner; way of making or doing something: *The children lined up in an orderly fashion.* 4 *after a fashion* although not very well: *John can speak Russian, after a fashion, but can't read it at all.* 5 *-fashion* in the way of a; like a: *to dress schoolboy-fashion* | *to eat Italian-fashion*

**fashion**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T (out of, from, into)] *fml* to shape or make,

usu. with one's hands or with only a few tools: *Taking some branches and leaves, he fashioned a simple shelter.* | *She fashioned the pot out of clay/fashioned the clay into a pot.* | (fig.) *Many influences help to fashion our children's characters.*

**fash-ion-a-ble** /ˌfæʃənəbəl/ *adj* 1 (made, dressed, etc.) according to the latest fashion: *a fashionable hat/woman* | *It's fashionable among the British to go to the south of France for their holidays.* 2 of or for people of high social position or people who make or decide upon fashion: *fashionable society* | *a fashionable restaurant* | *She moves in fashionable circles.* (=has connections with people of high social standing) —opposite **unfashionable**; see also **OLD-FASHIONED** — *~ably adv*: *fashionably dressed*

**fashion plate** /ˌfæʃənˈpleɪt/ *n* *AmE* sometimes *derog* a person who thinks it very important to dress in the latest fashion

**Fass-bin-der** /ˌfæsˌbɪndər/, **Rai-ner Wer-ner** /ˌraɪnərˈwɜːnər/ || ˌwɜːr-/ *n* (1946–82) a German writer and film director, many of whose 40 films show German life after the Second World War

**fast**<sup>1</sup> /fɑːst/ || ˌfæst/ *adj* 1 quick; moving or able to move quickly: *a fast car* | *the fast train to New York* (=one that travels fast and stops at few stations) | *the fast growth of the oil industry* | *fast music* | *a fast runner* —see **FAST-NESS** (**USAGE**) 2 taking a short time compared to other people or things: *a fast journey* 3 firmly fixed and unlikely to move or change: *The colours aren't fast, so be careful when you wash these towels.* | *The label says this shirt is colour fast.* | *He made the rope fast* (=tied it firmly) *to the metal ring.* 4 [F; after *n*] (of a clock) showing a time that is later than the true time: *My watch is fast/is five minutes fast.* 5 having or being a high photographic speed: *a fast lens* | *a fast film* 6 [A] allowing quick movement: *There had been an accident in the fast lane of the highway.* | *a fast pitch* | *Cook it in a fast* (=very hot) *oven.* 7 *old-fash* wanting too much pleasure and spending too much money: *James belongs to a very fast set at college.* 8 **fast and furious** (esp. of games and amusements) noisy and active 9 **pull a fast one (on)** *infml* to deceive (someone) with a trick —see also **FAST-NESS**, **SPEED**, **FAST FOOD**, **FAST LANE**

**fast**<sup>2</sup> *adv* 1 quickly: *She drives very fast.* | *Their population is growing fast.* 2 firmly; tightly: *The car was stuck fast in the mud.* 3 ahead of a correct time: *The train's running five minutes fast.* 4 *old use* close; near: *a brook fast by* 5 **fast asleep** sleeping deeply 6 **play fast and loose with old-fash** to treat in a selfishly careless way —see also **thick and fast** (**THICK**<sup>2</sup>)

**fast**<sup>3</sup> *v* [I] to eat little or no food for a particular length of time, esp. for religious reasons: *Muslims fast during Ramadan.*

**fast**<sup>4</sup> *n* an act or period of fasting: *Friday is a fast day.* | *He broke his fast by drinking some milk.*

**fast-back** /ˌfɑːstbæk/ || ˌfæst-/ *n* *AmE* a car with a long sloping rear window and usu. only two doors

**fast breed-er re-ac-tor** /ˌfæstˈbreɪdərˌreɪˌæktər/ *n* a **NUCLEAR REACTOR** which produces more **FISSILE** material than it needs to produce electricity

**fast col-oureds** /ˌfæstˈkɒlədɪz/ *n* [P] *BrE* coloured clothes which will not lose or change colour when washed in a **WASHING MACHINE**

**fas-ten** /ˌfɑːsən/ || ˌfæ-/ *v* [I;T] to make or become firmly fixed or closed: *The bag won't fasten properly.* | *He fastened his coat.* | *Fasten your seat belts.* | *I fastened the pages together with a paperclip.* | *She fastened the notice to the board.* | *She fastened the loose edge down with some glue.* | *He fastened on his sword/fastened his sword on.* | (fig.) *She fastened her eyes on him.* | (fig.) *Don't try and fasten the blame on me.* —opposite **unfasten**

**fasten on/onto/upon** sthg. *phr v* [T] to take eagerly and use; seize on: *The president fastened on the idea at once.*

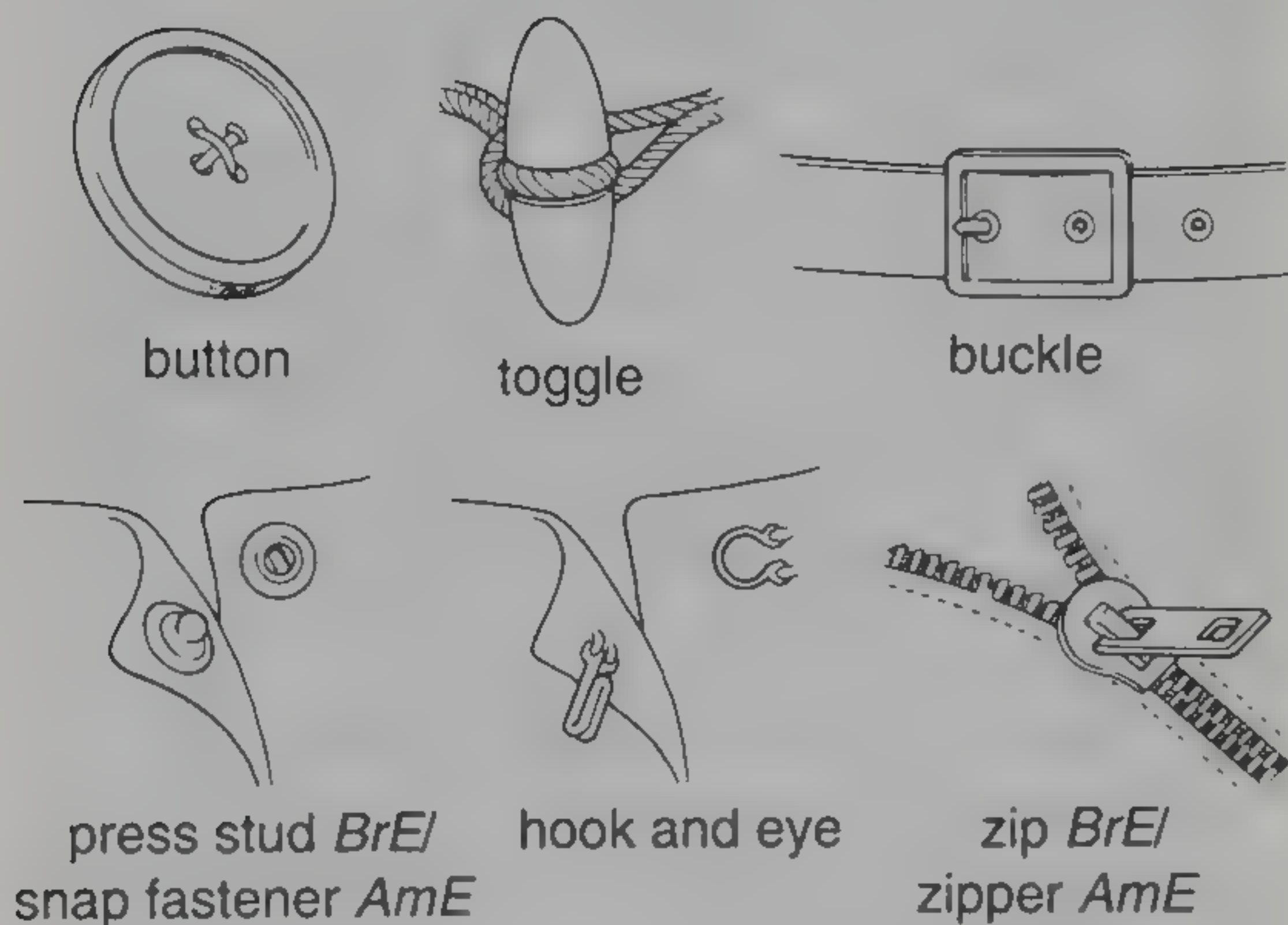
**fas-ten-er** /ˌfɑːsənər/ || ˌfæ-/ *n* something that fastens things together: *Could you do up the fasteners on the back of my dress, please.* —see also **ZIP**<sup>1</sup> (1)

**fas-ten-ing** /ˌfɑːsənɪŋ/ || ˌfæ-/ *n* something that holds things shut, esp. doors and windows

**fast food** /ˌfæstˈfuːd/ *n* [U] food such as **HAMBURGERS** and cooked chicken that is quickly and easily prepared, and sold by a restaurant to be eaten at once or taken away: *a well-known chain of fast-food restaurants*



## fasteners



**fast-forward** /fəˈstɔːd/ *n* [(the)U] a way of operating a TAPE RECORDER or VIDEO<sup>2</sup> (2) so that the TAPE is wound forward fast without being played

**fastidious** /fæˈstɪdiəs/ *adj* (typical of a person who is) extremely difficult to please or satisfy, esp. disliking anything at all dirty, unpleasant, or rough: *Jean is too fastidious to eat with her fingers.* —compare **FUSSY** (1) —*ly adv* —*ness n* [U]

**fast lane** /ˈfɑːst leɪn/ *n* 1 the LANE of a MOTORWAY used by vehicles travelling fast and going past other vehicles 2 **life in the fast lane** a very exciting style of life: *With all her money and film-star friends, she really lives her life in the fast lane.*

**fastness** /ˈfɑːstnəs/ *n* 1 [U] the quality of being firm and fixed: *colour fastness* 2 [C] esp. *lit* a safe place which is hard to reach: *The rebels have withdrawn to their mountain fastness for the winter.*

▷ **USAGE** There is no noun formed from **fast** when it means **quick**. Use instead **speed** or **quickness**. ◀

**Fast-net** /ˈfɑːstnet/ *n* [the] a famous YACHTING race held every two years from the south of England up to the Fast-net Rock near Ireland

**fat** /fæt/ *adj* 1 having (too) much fat on the body: *fat cattle* | *a fat baby* | *You'll get even fatter if you eat all those cream cakes.*

▷ **CULTURAL NOTE** In Britain and the US it is not considered attractive to be fat, and many people, esp. women, worry that they are too fat and try to lose weight. ◀

2 (of meat) containing a lot of fat: *fat bacon* —see also **FAT-TY**<sup>1</sup> 3 thick and well-filled: *a fat book* | (fig.) *a fat bank account* | (fig.) *The cinema industry has had a series of fat (=profitable) years.* 4 [A] *infml* nearly nonexistent: *A fat lot of good/of use that is!* | *a fat chance* 5 **the opera isn't over till the fat lady sings** saying something is not finished until one particular important part has taken place —*ness n* [U]

▷ **USAGE** If you want to be polite about someone do not say that they are **fat**. (**Rather**) **overweight** is a more polite way of saying the same thing. **Plump** is most often used of women and children and means “slightly (and pleasantly) fat”. **Chubby** (used of babies and children) also means “pleasantly fat”. **Stout** means “rather fat and heavy” and **tubby** means “short and rather fat, especially in the stomach”. If someone is extremely fat and unhealthy they are said to be **obese**. —see also **THIN** (**USAGE**) ◀

**fat**<sup>2</sup> *n* 1 [U] the white or yellowish substance in the bodies of animals and human beings; esp. just under the skin, which helps to keep them warm 2 [C;U] this substance or the oily substance found in some plants, esp. seeds, when in solid or almost solid form, considered as food: *He can't eat fat.* | *He fried the potatoes in deep fat.* | *Butter is made of animal fat but some kinds of margarine are made of vegetable fats.* 3 **live off/on the fat of the land** to live in great comfort with plenty to eat, without having to work very hard 4 **the fat is in the fire** *infml* something has been done which will result in a lot of trouble —see also **chew the fat** (**CHEW**<sup>1</sup>)

**fa-tal** /ˈfeɪtəl/ *adj* 1 [(to, for)] causing or resulting in death: *a fatal accident/illness* | (fig.) *Marriage at this stage could*

*be fatal to your career.* 2 *infml* bringing danger or ruin, or having unpleasant results: *It's fatal to stay up working late into the night; you always feel terrible next day.* —see also **FATALLY**

**Fatal At-trac-tion** /ˌfæ.təl.əˈtræk.ʃən/ a film with Michael Douglas and Glen Close as the main actors, in which a woman develops a dangerous **OBSESSION** for a married man who once had sex with her and follows him everywhere: *The court refused to order a Fatal Attraction-style pursuer to stop plaguing him.*

**fa-tal-is-m** /ˈfeɪtəl.ɪzəm/ *n* [U] the belief that events are decided by fate and are outside human control —*ist n* —*istic* /ˈfeɪtəl.ɪstɪk/ *adj*: *a fatalistic attitude to death* —*istically* /kli/ *adv*

**fa-tal-i-ty** /fəˈtæl.ɪti/ *n fml* 1 [C] *tech* a violent accidental death: *It was a bad crash, but there were no fatalities.* (=no one was killed) 2 [U] the quality of being fatal: *New drugs have reduced the fatality of this disease.* | *The fatality rate on our roads has been increasing.* 3 [S] *fml* the quality of being decided by fate

**fa-tal-ly** /ˈfeɪtəl.i/ *adv* so as to cause death, ruin, or misfortune: *fatally wounded* | *She was fatally attracted to him.*

**fat cat** /ˈfæt kæt/ *n AmE infml derog* a rich man, esp. one who smokes a CIGAR and drives a large expensive car

**fat city** /ˈfæt sɪti/ *n AmE sl* in **fat city** very fortunate and very happy because of new material wealth: *If this deal goes through, we'll be in fat city!* | *Those guys are in fat city since their rent was lowered.*

**fate** /feɪt/ *n* 1 [U] (often *cap.*) the power or force which is supposed to be the cause of and in control of all events, in a way which is beyond human control. Fate is not an important idea in the lives of British or American people. *He expected to spend his life in Italy, but fate had decreed otherwise.* | *She wondered what fate had in store for her next.* (=what would happen to her next) 2 [C] an end or result, esp. death: *They met with a terrible fate.* 3 [S] what will or must happen to someone or something: *Your school report is important, but ultimately it's the university examiners who will decide your fate.* (=decide whether you can or cannot enter university) | *The company's fate is still uncertain.* | *The fate of the hostages depends upon the release of the political prisoners.* 4 **a fate worse than death**: a something terrible or frightening: *Going out with Henry would be a fate worse than death.* b *old use or humor* (for a woman) the loss of **VIRGINITY**, esp. before marriage —see also **tempt fate** (**TEMPT**), **DESTINY**

**fat-ed** /ˈfeɪtɪd/ *adj* [F] caused or fixed by fate: [+to-v] *You and I were fated to meet.* [+that] *It was fated that we should meet.* —see also **ILL-FATED**

**fate-ful** /ˈfeɪtəfəl/ *adj* (of a day, event, or decision) having an important (esp. bad) influence on the future: *Their fateful decision to declare war changed the course of history.* —*ly adv*

**Fates** /feɪts/ *n* [the] the three goddesses who, according to the ancient Greeks, decided the course of human life

**fat farm** /ˈfæt fɑːm/ *n AmE infml derog* a place where fat people go in order to lose weight. Some of these places are very expensive. They try to make people healthy through exercise, eating well, and relaxing. —compare **HEALTH FARM**

**fat-head** /ˈfæθed/ *n infml* a fool; stupid person: *Don't do that, (you) fathead!* —**headed** /ˈfæt ˈhedɪd/ *adj* —**headedness n** [U]

**fa-ther**<sup>1</sup> /ˈfɑːðə/ *n* 1 a male parent of a child or animal: *the fathers and mothers of the schoolchildren* | *He became a father* (=a child of his was born) *this year.* | *My uncle has been like a father to me since my own father died.* | *Can we borrow the car, father?* | *a father of four* (=having four children) | *a father-to-be* (=soon to be a father) —see **UNCLE** (**USAGE**) 2 [+of] the man who began or invented (the stated thing): *Einstein is regarded by many as the father of modern scientific thought.* 3 [*usu. pl.*] a **FORE-FATHER**: *the customs of our fathers* —see also **CITY FATHER**, **FOUNDING FATHER** 4 **how's your father?** *BrE infml sex*: *How about a bit of how's your father?* —*less adj*: *a poor fatherless child*

▷ **USAGE** 1 We can use **father** and **mother** when addressing these people directly: *Can I borrow the car, father?* | *Mother, could you lend me £5?* Certain other words for jobs and ranks can also be used in this way: *Yes, doctor.* (in the medical meaning of the word) |



**Waiter** || **No, sergeant.** —see also **UNCLE (USAGE) 2**  
When you are addressing your **father** or **mother**, or talking about them to another member of your family, you do not use the possessive pronoun "my": *Are you all right, mother?* | *Has father gone out?* Outside the family it is more common to include the possessive pronoun: **(My) father used to take us to the seaside every year.** | **(My) mother will be worried if I come home late.** When talking of someone else's father or mother, use a suitable possessive pronoun: *Does your mother know you're out?* | *Where is his father now?* When talking of a male or a female parent, use articles in the normal way: *It's hard work being a mother.* | *Most people blamed the father for the family's problems.* **3** Compare **father, dad, daddy, mother, mum, mummy.** The ways in which sons and daughters address their parents vary from family to family. The most common forms of address are probably **mum** (*AmE mom*) and **dad**. In many families **mother** and **father** are used, but some families consider these terms too formal. **Mummy** (*AmE mommy*) and **daddy** are also commonly used, esp. by children, but by some adult sons and daughters too, esp. in upper-class families. ◀

**father**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T] *old use or humor* (of a man) to become the father of: (fig.) *He fathered the concept of the welfare state.*

**father** sthg. *on/upon* sbdy. *phr v* [T] *esp. BrE* to say or suggest that (someone) is responsible for inventing or thinking of: *Don't try and father that silly idea on me.*

**Father** *n* **1** (a title of respect for a priest, esp. in the Roman Catholic Church): *Father Brown is our local priest.* | *Will you have some more tea, Father?* **2** [our/the] God: *our Father in heaven*

**Father Christ-mas** /,fəˈkrɪstməz/ *BrE* see **SANTA CLAUS**

**father fig-ure** /'fɑːðəfɪgʊə/ *n* an esp. older man on whom one depends for advice, help, moral support, etc.

**fa-ther-hood** /'fɑːðəhʊd/ -ðər-/ *n* [U] the condition of being a father: *the responsibilities of fatherhood*

**father-in-law** /'fɑːðərlɔː/ *n* **fathers-in-law** or **father-in-laws** the father of a person's wife or husband

**Father Knows Best** /,fɑːðərlɔː/ an American television programme of the 1950s. The programme is sometimes used as an example of the typical American family of the 1950s, with a father who went off to work and was seen as wise and able to help his children with their problems and a mother who stayed at home with the children.

**fa-ther-land** /'fɑːðərlænd/ -ðər-/ *n* (used esp. of Germany) the country of one's birth or family origin —see also **MOTHER COUNTRY**

**fa-ther-ly** /'fɑːðəli/ -ðər-/ *adj* *apprec* like or typical of a good father: *a fatherly old doctor* | *He gave her a fatherly kiss.* —compare **PATERNAL** —**liness** *n* [U]

**Father of the Church** /,fɑːðərlɔː/ *n pl* **Fathers of the Church** one of the teachers of the early Christian church whose writings are used to answer any difficult points of faith or practice

**Father's Day** /'fɑːðərlɔː/ *n* the third Sunday in June on which fathers are given cards and presents as a sign of love and to thank them for everything they do —compare **MOTHER'S DAY**

**fath-om**<sup>1</sup> /'fæðəm/ *n* a unit of measurement (6 feet or 1.8 metres) for the depth of water: *The sea is sixty fathoms deep here.* | *The boat sank in twenty fathoms.*

**fathom**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T (OUT)] *infml* to get at the true meaning of; come to understand: *I couldn't fathom his meaning.* [+wh-] *I've been trying to fathom out how to do it.*

**fath-om-less** /'fæðəmləs/ *adj* *esp. lit* too deep to be measured or understood; **UNFATHOMABLE**: *fathomless depths* | *a fathomless mystery*

**fa-tigue**<sup>1</sup> /fə'tɪg/ *n* **1** [U] great tiredness; exhaustion (**EXHAUST**<sup>1</sup>): *He was pale with fatigue after his sleepless night.* **2** [U] *tech* the tendency of a metal to break as the result of repeated bending (esp. in the phrase **metal fatigue**) **3** [C] (in the army) a job of cleaning or cooking: *fatigue duty* | *He had to spend Sunday doing fatigues.*

**fatigue**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T] *fml* to make tired: *He felt irritable and fatigued after the long journey.*

**fa-tigues** /fə'tɪgz/ *n* [P] also **fatigue u-ni-form** /,fə'tɪgjuːnɪfɔːm/ *AmE* — army clothes worn for field duty

**fat-so** /'fætsəʊ/ *n infml derog* a fat person: *Hey, fatso — get off my car!*

**fat-ted calf** /,fætɪd 'kɑːf/ -'kæf/ see **kill the fattened calf** (**KILL**)

**fat-ten** /'fætn/ *v* [T (UP)] to make fatter: *The pigs are being fattened for market.* | *Have some more cake! You need fattening up a bit.* | *fattening foods*

**fat-ty**<sup>1</sup> /'fæti/ *adj* containing (a lot of) fat: *fatty tissue* | *She can't eat fatty meat — give her lean beef.* —**tiness** *n* [U]

**fatty**<sup>2</sup> also **fatso** *n infml derog* (used esp. by children) a fat person

**fatty ac-id** /,fæti 'æ.sɪd/ *n* (the chemical name for) an **ORGANIC** acid which a cell needs in order to process food and produce **ENERGY** (=the power to do work)

**fat-u-ous** /'fætʃuəs/ *adj* very silly without seeming to know it: *What a fatuous remark!* —**ly** *adv* —**fatuousness**, **fatuity** /fə'tjuːz/ *n* [U]

**fat-wa** /'fætwɑː/ *n* a formal legal opinion given by an Islamic (**ISLAM**) religious authority.

**fau-cet** /'fɔːsɪt/ *n* *AmE* for **TAP**<sup>1</sup> (1)

**Faulk-ner** /'fɔːlknər/, **William** (1897–1962) an American writer of **NOVELS** about the Southern US, such as *The Sound and the Fury* and *As I Lay Dying*

**fault**<sup>1</sup> /fɔːlt/ *n* **1** a mistake or imperfection; something wrong or incorrect: *There are several faults in that page of figures.* | *A small electrical fault in the motor caused it to stop.* | **Through no fault of her own** (=not because of any mistake she made) *she lost her job.* **2** a bad or weak point, but not of a serious moral kind, in someone's character: *Your only fault is that you won't concentrate.* | *I love her for her faults as well as for her virtues.* **3** *tech* (in **GEOLOGY**) a crack in the Earth's surface, where one band of rock has slid against another —see **EARTHQUAKE**, **SAN ANDREAS FAULT** **4** (in games like tennis) a mistake in a **SERVICE**<sup>1</sup> (9), which may lose a point: *a double fault* **5** *at fault* in the wrong: *Which of the two drivers was at fault in the car crash?* **6** *be someone's fault* to be something for which someone can rightly be blamed: *"It's not our fault (that) we're late."* *"Whose fault is it, then?"* **7** *find fault (with)* to complain (about), esp. too much or too often: *She's always finding fault with the way I do things.* **8** *to a fault* (of a good quality) to an extreme degree; too much: *He's generous to a fault.* —see **WRONG (USAGE)**

**fault**<sup>2</sup> *v* **1** [T *usu. in questions or negatives*] to find a mistake or imperfection in: *It was impossible to fault her performance/her logic.* **2** [I] *tech* (of rocks) to break and form a **FAULT**<sup>1</sup> (3): *ancient faulted rocks*

**fault-less** /'fɔːltləs/ *adj* *apprec* without a fault; perfect: *The dancers gave an absolutely faultless performance.* —**ly** *adv* —**ness** *n* [U]

**fault-y** /'fɔːlti/ *adj* (esp. of machines, equipment, etc.) having faults; **DEFECTIVE**: *a faulty connection in the electrical system* | *faulty reasoning* —**ily** *adv*

**faun** /fɔːn/ *n* an ancient Roman god of the fields and woods, with a man's body and a goat's horns and legs —compare **SATYR**

**fau-na** /'fɔːnə/ *n* [C;U] all the animals living wild in a particular place or belonging to a particular age in history: *the fauna of the forest* —compare **FLORA**

**Fauntleroy**, **Little Lord** see **LITTLE LORD FAUNTLEROY**

**Fau-ré** /'fɔːreɪ/ **Ga-bri-el Ur-bain** /'geɪbrɪəl 'uəbæn/ -uər'bæn/ (1845–1924) a French **COMPOSER** most famous for his **REQUIEM**

**Faust** /faʊst/, **Jo-hann** /'jəʊhæn/ -hɑːn/ also **Dr Faus-tus** /,dɒktə 'faʊstəs/ -dɑːktər-/ a 16th century German doctor who performed magic and is said to have sold his soul to the devil in exchange for knowledge and power. Many stories and pieces of music have been written about him.

**fau-vis-m** /'fəʊvɪzəm/ *n* a movement in painting 1905–08 using pure, bright colours and including the work of the painters Matisse and Braque

**faux a-mi** /fəʊzæ'miː/ *n* **faux amis** *Fr* a word in one language that looks like a word in another but has a different meaning, e.g. the French word "actuel" means "current, present-day" in English and not "actually"

**faux pas** /,fəʊ 'pɑːz, 'fəʊ pɑːz/ *n* **faux pas** /,fəʊ 'pɑːz/ *Fr* a social mistake in words or behaviour; **GAFFE**: *He*



committed a terrible faux pas when he called the Queen "My dear".

**fa-va bean** /'fɑ:və bi:n/ *n* AmE for BROAD BEAN

**fa-vour**<sup>1</sup> BrE || **favor** AmE /'feivə/ *n* 1 [U] active approval: *He did all he could to win her favour. | I'm sure the president will look with favour on such a proposal. | The idea is beginning to gain widespread favour. | a movie director who seems to be in favour (=popular) with the critics just now | I'm afraid I'm out of favour (=unpopular) at the office at the moment.* 2 [U] unfairly generous treatment; (too much) sympathy or kindness towards one person as compared to others: *A mother shouldn't show favour to one of her children.* 3 [C] a kind act that is not forced or necessary: *As a special favour, I'll let you stay up late tonight. | I want to ask a favour of you; will you lend me your car? | Thanks a lot! I'll return the favour sometime! | Would you do me a favour and turn off that radio? | He will be in a position to dispense favours to his supporters if he is elected. | (fml) We would esteem (=think) it a great favour if you would reply at once.* 4 [C] esp. BrE a piece of metal (BADGE) or of coloured cloth (RIBBON) worn to show that one belongs to a particular political party, supports a particular team, etc. 5 [C] AmE a small gift given to guests at a party 6 **in favour of**: a approving of; on the side of or in support of: *Are you in favour of workers' control of companies? | The committee came out in favour of (=decided to support) the minister's proposals. b* choosing instead; because of a PREFERENCE for: *He turned down a university appointment in favour of a political career. c* (of a cheque) payable to: *This cheque is made out in favour of the Cats Protection Society.* 7 **in someone's/something's favour** to someone's/something's advantage: *The system tends to operate in favour of the wealthier classes. | The plan has this in its favour, that it won't cost much.* —see also FAVOURS, **curry favour** (CURRY<sup>3</sup>), **without fear or favour** (FEAR<sup>1</sup>)

**favour**<sup>2</sup> BrE || **favor** AmE— *v* [T] 1 to support or believe in (a plan, idea, course of action, etc.); regard with favour: *The president is believed to favour further tax cuts. | This is the least favoured option of all those available.* 2 to be unfairly fond of; treat (too) generously: *Parents shouldn't favour one of their children more than the others.* 3 (of conditions) to give support or advantage to; operate in favour of: *The system tends to favour those who have studied English.* 4 to look like (a relation): *She favours her mother.*

**favour** sbdy. **with** sthg. *phr v* [T] *fml* to give: *Kindly favour me with a reply at your earliest convenience.*

**fa-vou-ra-ble** BrE || **favorable** AmE /'feivərəbəl/ *adj* 1 (of a message, answer, etc.) saying what one is pleased to hear; expressing approval: *I've been hearing favourable accounts of your work.* 2 winning favour and approval: *The new manager has created a very favourable impression.* 3 [(to)] (of conditions) advantageous: *The company will lend you money on very favourable terms.* —opposite **unfavourable** —**rably** *adv*: *Her book was favourably reviewed. | He speaks favourably of you.*

**fa-voured** BrE || **favoured** AmE /'feivəd/—*ərd*/ *adj* 1 having special advantages or desirable qualities: *a house in a favoured position (=in attractive and convenient area)* 2 receiving unfairly generous treatment: *All the best seats were reserved for favoured customers.* 3 [F+with] *fml* having an appearance of the stated kind: *She is favoured with great beauty. | an ill-favoured child*

**fa-vou-rite**<sup>1</sup> BrE || **favorite** AmE /'feivərɪt/ *n* 1 something or someone that is loved above all others: *I like all her books but this one is my favourite.* 2 someone who receives unfairly generous treatment: *A teacher shouldn't have favourites in the class.* 3 the one expected to win or succeed: *I put all my money on the favourite in the big horse race, but it only came in third. | John is favourite to get the nomination for club president.*

**favourite**<sup>2</sup> BrE || **favorite** AmE— *adj* [A] most loved; being a favourite: *Who's your favourite writer? | my favourite record/movie/restaurant | his favourite subject of conversation* —see LOVE (USAGE)

**favourite son** /,fəvə'ri:zən/ *n* AmE a well-known person, usu. a politician, who is popular with the people in the area he comes from: *Idaho's favorite son in the primary election*

**fa-vou-ri-tis-m** BrE || **favoritism** AmE /'feivərɪtɪzəm/ *n* [U] *derog* the practice of giving unfairly generous treatment

to one person: *Giving that job to his friend's son was a clear case of favouritism.*

**fa-vours** BrE || **favours** AmE /'feivəz/—*ərz*/ *n* [P] *old-fashion euph* a woman's agreement to sexual activity

**Fawkes** /fɔ:ks/, **Guy** (1570–1606) an English ROMAN CATHOLIC killed for his part in the secret plan to blow up the HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT in 1605. **Guy Fawkes' Night** is celebrated each year on November 5th with a BONFIRE on which the figure of a man, called a GUY<sup>1</sup>(2), is burned, and with FIREWORKS. —see also GUY FAWKES NIGHT, GUN-POWDER PLOT

**Fawlty** /'fɔ:lti/, **Basil** a character in a very popular British television COMEDY programme called *Fawlty Towers*. Basil Fawlty is the owner of a hotel and is known for often becoming very angry, nervous, or worried, and also for being very rude to people. The character is played by the actor John Cleese. —see colour picture on page 686

**Fawlty Towers** /,fɔ:lti' təʊəz/ *n* a funny British television programme about a hotel called Fawlty Towers, and its owner, Basil Fawlty, played by John Cleese. In the hotel, things often go wrong and the people who work there, esp. Basil Fawlty, often behave in strange ways. —see colour picture on page 686

**fawn**<sup>1</sup> /fɔ:n/ *n* a young deer less than a year old

**fawn**<sup>2</sup> *adj, n* [U] (having) a light yellowish-brown colour

**fawn**<sup>3</sup> *v*

**fawn on/upon** sbdy. *phr v* [T] 1 (esp. of a dog) to jump on, rub against, etc., as an expression of love 2 *derog* to try to gain the favour of (someone) by over-praising and being insincerely attentive: *It sickens me to see them fawning on their rich uncle.*

**fax**<sup>1</sup> /fæks/ *v* [T] to send (copies of printed material, letters, pictures, etc.) using a system by which the information is sent in ELECTRONIC form along a telephone line; used esp. in business: *I'll fax the menu to you in the morning.*

**fax**<sup>2</sup> *n* the printed material received or sent electronically by the fax machine: *Did you receive my fax? | I'm sending you a fax. | Send it by fax.*

**fax ma-chine** /'fæks ma:ʃi:n/ *n* the machine which is used for sending or receiving faxes

**fax num-ber** /'fæks nʌmbə/ *n* the telephone number which must be used to send a fax to a particular fax machine

**fay** /feɪ/ *n poet* for FAIRY

**faze** /feɪz/ *v* [T] *infml, esp. AmE* to surprise and shock (someone) so much as to prevent speech or action: *His actions didn't faze me in the least; I expected him to behave badly.*

**FBI** /,ef bi: 'aɪ/ [*the*] Federal Bureau of Investigation; the police department in the US that is controlled by the central government, and is particularly concerned with crimes that involve people or places in more than one state

**FC** /,ef 'si:/ *n* 1 *abbrev. for:* FOOTBALL CLUB 2 *written abbrev. for:* FORESTRY COMMISSION

**FCC** /,ef si: 'si:/ [*the*] see FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

**FCO** /,ef si: 'əʊ/ [*the*] Foreign and Commonwealth Office; the part of the British government which deals with Britain's affairs and relations with other countries. It is under the control of the Foreign Secretary and sends DIPLOMATS to foreign countries to represent Britain. —compare HOME OFFICE, STATE DEPARTMENT

**FDA** /,ef di: 'eɪ/ [*the*] Food and Drug Administration; the American government organization which decides the safety of food and drugs. The FDA decides what can legally be added to food, whether medical drugs are safe enough to be sold, and how to show information about food and drugs on the containers.

**FDR** /,ef di: 'ɑ:z/ see Franklin D. ROOSEVELT

**FDIC** /,ef di: aɪ 'si:/ Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation an American government organization which promises the safety of money put into the named bank or institution: *Belmont National Bank, member FDIC*

**FE** /,ef 'i:z/ *abbrev. for:* FURTHER EDUCATION

**fe-al-ty** /'fi:əlti/ *n* [U] (in former times) loyalty (to one's king or lord): *In return for his land he swore fealty to the king.*

**fear**<sup>1</sup> /fiə/ *n* 1 [C;U (of)] an unpleasant and usu. strong feeling caused by the presence or expectation of danger:



*That child will do anything — she seems totally without fear. | I have a great fear of fire/spiders. [+that] I was suddenly seized with/by the fear that they would drown. | My fears that he might get lost proved to be unfounded. | I'm living in (daily) fear of dismissal. (=always afraid that I'll be dismissed) | In fear and trembling (=very much afraid) he listened to the footsteps of the guards. | That loud bang put the fear of God into me. (=frightened me very much) | He goes in fear of his life. (=is afraid he will be killed or die) | The announcement that the factory would be closed confirmed our worst fears. 2 [U (of)] likelihood or possibility, esp. of something bad: "Will the children forget about lunch?" "There's no fear of that!" 3 for fear of/that because of anxiety about/that; in case (of): I dare not go there for fear of him seeing me/that he will see me. 4 No fear! BrE infml (in answer to a suggestion that one should do something) Certainly not! 5 BrE without fear or favour with justice; not showing more sympathy for one side than for the other 6 the only thing we have to fear is fear itself quote a phrase used by Franklin Roosevelt in his first speech as President in 1932 and now reused in other situations*

**fear**<sup>2</sup> *v* [not in progressive forms] fml 1 [T] to be afraid of; consider or expect with feelings of fear: *She has always feared old age. [+ (that)] Experts fear that there will be a new outbreak of the disease. 2 [I (for)] to be afraid (for the safety of someone or something): She feared for the little boy when she saw him at the top of the tree. | Never (=do not) fear; they will be safe. 3 I fear fml or pomp (used when giving bad news) I'm sorry that I must now say: I fear we have missed our chance. | "Is there enough money?" "I fear not." | "Is she very ill?" "I fear so."*

**fear-ful** /'fiəfəl/ 'fiər-/ *adj* 1 causing fear: *a fearful storm 2 pomp very bad; (of a bad thing) very great: What a fearful waste of time! 3 [F (of)] fml afraid: He was fearful of her anger. [+that] We were fearful that she would be angry. — ~ly adv — ~ness n* [U]

**fear-less** /'fiələs/ 'fiər-/ *adj* [(of)] without fear; not afraid: *their fearless opposition to the junta | He gave them his honest opinion, fearless of the consequences. — ~ly adv: He gazed fearlessly at the gunman. — ~ness n* [U]

**fear-some** /'fiəsəm/ 'fiər-/ *adj* esp. lit or humor causing fear; very unpleasant, esp. in appearance: *The children were a fearsome sight after their mud fight.*

**fea-si-ble** /'fi:zəbəl/ *adj* able to be carried out or done; possible and reasonable: *Your plan sounds quite feasible. | It's simply not economically feasible to stage such a lavish production. — compare PLAUSIBLE — bly adv — bility* /'fi:zə'bɪləti/ *n* [U]: *We're having a feasibility study done to find out if the plan will work.*

**feast**<sup>1</sup> /fi:st/ *n* 1 a splendid meal, esp. a public one: *The king gave/held a feast. | What a marvellous meal you've given us — a real feast! | (fig.) a feast for the eyes | (fig.) a feast of music—see also MIDNIGHT FEAST 2 a day or period of time kept in memory of a religious event: Christmas is an important feast for Christians—see also MOVABLE FEAST*

**feast**<sup>2</sup> *v* [I (on, upon)] 1 to eat and drink very well; have a specially good meal (of): *The birds are feasting on the berries. 2 feast one's eyes on/upon to look at eagerly and with delight: He feasted his eyes on the beautiful scene.*

**Feast of Tab-er-nac-les** /, . . 'tæb- . . / *n* see SUKKOTH

**Feast of Weeks** /, . . 'wi:k/ *n* see SHABUOTH

**feat** /fi:t/ *n* an action needing strength, skill, or courage: *It was quite a feat to move that piano by yourself! | feats of endurance | a remarkable feat of engineering*

**fea-ther**<sup>1</sup> /'feðə/ *n* 1 any of the many parts of the covering which grows on a bird's body, each of which has a stiff rod-like piece in the middle, with soft hair-like material growing from it on each side: *an ostrich feather | a plume of feathers | a pillow stuffed with feathers 2 a feather in someone's cap an honour that someone can be justly proud of: They want you to photograph the Queen? That'll be quite a feather in your cap! 3 make the feathers/fur/sparks fly infml to cause a quarrel or fight: When Derek found Bob had damaged his bicycle, it really made the feathers fly! —see also birds of a feather (BIRD), ruffle someone's feathers (RUFFLE<sup>1</sup>)*

**feather**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T] 1 [(with)] to put feathers on the end of (an ARROW) to act as guides in flight 2 tech to make (the blade of an OAR) lie flat on the surface of the water at the

end of a STROKE<sup>2</sup> (5) 3 feather one's nest usu. derog to make oneself rich, esp. dishonestly, through a job in which one is trusted —see also tar and feather (TAR<sup>2</sup>)

**feather bed** /, . . 'bi: / *n* a large flat bag that is filled with feathers and used for sleeping on —compare MATTRESS

**fea-ther-bed** /'feðəbed/ -ər-/ *v* [T] derog to protect by giving generous help in the form of money, tax advantages, working conditions, etc.: *Their government featherbeds its industries so that they can sell their products much more cheaply than we can.*

**feather bo-a** /, . . 'bɔ:/ *n* a BOA<sup>2</sup>

**fea-ther-brained** /'feðəbreɪnd/ -ər-/ *adj* infml very silly and thoughtless: *He was too featherbrained to think of asking for a receipt.*

**feather dust-er** /, . . 'dʌst- / *n* a long stick with a bunch of feathers fixed to one end used for removing light dust

**feathered friends** /, . . 'frɛndz/ *n pl* birds, esp. in the phrase *our feathered friends*

**fea-ther-weight** /'feðəweɪt/ -ər-/ *n* 1 a BOXER (1) heavier than a BANTAMWEIGHT but lighter than a LIGHTWEIGHT 2 someone or something of very little weight or importance: *The other two members of the committee are just featherweights.*

**fea-ther-y** /'feðəri/ *adj* 1 covered with feathers 2 apprec soft and light: *feathery pastry/clouds*

**fea-ture**<sup>1</sup> /'fi:tʃə/ *n* 1 [(of)] a (typical or noticeable) part or quality: *Wet weather is a feature of life in Scotland. | The exciting car chase was the one redeeming feature in the film. (=the only part that made the film worth seeing) | an essential/key feature of the plan | one of the regular features of the programme | a house with unusual architectural features 2 any of the noticeable parts of the face: Her mouth is her worst feature. —see also FEATURES 3 a special long article in a newspaper or magazine: *Did you read the feature on personal computers in the New York Times? | a feature writer 4 a film being shown at a cinema: What's this week's main feature at the Odeon?**

**feature**<sup>2</sup> *v* 1 [T] to include as a leading performer: *This film features Dustin Hoffman (as a divorced father). 2 [T] to advertise particularly: We're featuring bedroom furniture this week. 3 [I+adv/prep] to play an important part: Fish features very largely in the diet of these islanders.*

**feature film** /' . . 'fɪlm/ *n* a full-length cinema film with an invented story and professional actors —compare DOCUMENTARY<sup>2</sup>; see also DOUBLE FEATURE

**feature-length** /' . . 'lɛŋθ/ *adj* of the same length as a feature film: *a feature-length documentary*

**fea-ture-less** /'fi:tʃələs/ -tʃər-/ *adj* uninteresting, because of having no noticeable features: *a house in the middle of a featureless plain*

**fea-tures** /'fi:tʃəz/ -ərz/ *n* [P] the parts of the face: *He had regular features/Chinese features. | Her features were careworn. (=showing the results of worry and age)*

**fe-brile** /'fi:brɪl/ 'febrəl/ *adj* fml or med of or caused by fever

**Feb-ru-a-ry** /'februəri, 'febjuri/ 'febjuəri/ (written abbrev. Feb.) *n* [C;U] the second month of the year, between January and March: *It happened on February the tenth/on the tenth of February/(AmE) on February tenth. | This office opened in February 1991. | She started work here last February/the February before last.*

► **CULTURAL NOTE** Most people think of February as a cold, wet, perhaps snowy month. When they think of February, they may also think of SAINT VALENTINE'S DAY, which is on the 14th February. ◀

**fe-ces** /'fi:sɪz/ *n* [P] AmE for FAECES —fecal /'fi:kəl/ *adj*

**feck-less** /'fekləs/ *adj* worthless and without purpose or plans for the future: *That feckless brother of mine will never get a decent job. | His feckless behaviour landed him in court for debt. — ~ly adv — ~ness n* [U]

**fec-und** /'fekənd, 'fi:kənd/ *adj* fml producing a lot of crops or young; FERTILE: *a fecund fruit tree — ~ity* /fɪ'kəndɪti/ *n* [U]

**fed** /fed/ *past tense & participle of FEED* —see also FED UP

**Fed**<sup>1</sup> [the] AmE infml the Federal Reserve Bank

**Fed**<sup>2</sup> *n* AmE infml 1 (a criminal's name for) an FBI AGENT 2 usu. derog a person who works for a US government



AGENCY and is often seen as causing trouble in the lives of ordinary people

**fed-e-ral** /'fedərəl/ *adj* 1 of or being a **FEDERATION**: *Switzerland is a federal republic.* 2 of the central government of the US as compared with the governments of the states that form it: *Americans pay both federal taxes and state taxes.* —see also extra information on page 568

**Federal A-vi-a-tion Ad-min-i-stration** /,fɪdərəl ˈævɪəʃən/ also **FAA**— [the] an American government organization which is concerned with aircraft and airport safety

**Federal Bu-reau of In-ves-ti-ga-tion** /,fɪdərəl ˈbjuːəv ɪnˈvɛstɪɡeɪʃən/ [the] see **FBI**

**Federal Com-mu-ni-ca-tions Com-mis-sion** /,fɪdərəl ˈkɒmjuːnɪkəʃən ˈkɒmɪʃən/ also **FCC**— [the] an American government organization which is responsible for rules concerning broadcasting publicly or privately on radio, television, **CABLE**, and **SATELLITE TELEVISION**

**federal court** /,fɪdərəl ˈkɔːt/ *n* a court which hears cases that have to do with American law or the American **CONSTITUTION** —see also extra information on page 742

**Federal Ex-press** /,fɪdərəl ˈɛksprɛs/ *tdmk* an American **COURIER** company which operates internationally

**fed-e-ral-is-m** /'fedərəlɪzəm/ *n* [U] the belief in a **FEDERAL** system of government —*ist n, adj*

**Federal Re-serve Bank** /,fɪdərəl ˈrɛzɜːv bɑːk/ [the] one of 12 banks each operating in a different area of the US under the authority of the Federal Reserve System

**Federal Re-serve Sys-tem** /,fɪdərəl ˈrɛzɜːv sɪstəm/ also **Fed**— [the] the central banking (**CENTRAL BANK**) system of the US. The central bank of the US is the Federal Reserve Bank.

**Federal Trade Com-mis-sion** /,fɪdərəl ˈtreɪd ˈkɒmɪʃən/ [the] see **FTC**

**fed-e-rate** /'fedəreɪt/ *v* [I;T] to form or become a federation

**fed-e-ra-tion** /,fedə'reɪʃən/ *n* 1 [C] a group of states united with one government which decides foreign affairs, defence, etc., but in which each state can have its own government to decide its own affairs 2 [U] the action or result of uniting in this way: *What hopes are there for European federation?* 3 [C] a group of societies, organizations, trade unions, etc., that have come together in this way: *the Federation of British Fishing Clubs*

**fe-dor-a** /fɪ'dɔːrə/ *n* a man's hat made of **FELT**, with a **BRIM** all the way round and a fold on top going from back to front. Fedoras were popular in the US in former times.

**fed up** /,fɪd ʌp/ *adj* [F (about, of, with)] *infml* unhappy, tired, and not satisfied, esp. about something uninteresting, annoying, or time-wasting that one has had too much of: *I'm rather fed up with your complaints.* | *The management is pretty fed up with/about the union's lack of co-operation concerning new technology.* | *I'm fed up of waiting for him — I'm going home!* [+that] *She'll be a bit fed up that you didn't telephone.*

▷ **USAGE** Some people say **fed up of**, not **fed up with**: *I'm fed up of it.* But this is often considered incorrect. <

**fee** /fiː/ *n* 1 a sum of money paid for professional services to a doctor, lawyer, private school, etc.: *doctor's fees* —see **PAY (USAGE)** 2 **fee fi fo fum** /,fiː ˈfaɪ ˈfəʊ ˈfʌm/ (*I smell the blood of an Englishman*) a phrase used by the **GIANT** in the fairy story of *Jack and the Beanstalk* when he thinks that he can smell Jack in his castle

**fee-ble** /'fiːbəl/ *adj* 1 lacking strength or force; **FRAIL**: *You'll find your grandfather is a lot feeble than when you last saw him.* 2 (of a joke, idea, story, etc.) weak; silly; not well thought out: *a feeble suggestion/excuse* — *ness n* [U] —*feebly adv*

**fee-ble-mind-ed** /,fiːbəl ˈmaɪndɪd/ *adj* 1 not clever; with less than the usual **INTELLIGENCE** 2 *euph* very stupid — *ness n* [U]

**feed** /fiːd/ *v* **fed** /fed/ 1 [T (on, with)] to give food to: *We have to feed 120 guests after the wedding.* | *He's got a big family — lots of hungry mouths to feed!* | *The baby will soon learn to feed himself.* | *We feed our dogs on fresh meat.* | *She feeds the baby with a spoon.* | (fig.) *They fed the fire with logs.* | (fig.) *These little streams feed the lake.* | (fig.) *You should water this plant once a week and feed it (=with minerals etc. needed for plant growth) in spring and summer.* —see also **FORCE-FEED**, **SPOON-FEED** 2 [I (on)] (esp. of an animal or baby) to eat: *The horses were feeding quietly in the stable.* | *Cows feed on grass.* 3 [T+obj+adv/prep] to put, supply, or provide, esp. continually: *Keep feeding the wire into/through the hole.* | *You feed in*

*the money here and the coffee comes out there.* | *The information is fed back to the appropriate government department* | *to feed data into a computer.* 4 [T+obj(i)+obj(d)] *infml* to provide with: *We fed the spy some false information in the hope that he would pass it back to his government.* | *They tried to feed me a line (=a false story) about unexpected extra expenses.* 5 [T] to put coins into (a **PARKING METER**) continually and illegally whenever one's parking period comes to an end, in order to keep one's parking place —see also **bite the hand that feeds one** (**BITE**<sup>1</sup> (12))

**feed** sthg. to sthg./sbdy. *phr v* [T] to give as food to: *You'd better feed this old bread to the ducks.*

**feed** sbdy./sthg. ↔ **up** *BrE* || **fatten up** *phr v* [T] to make (a person or animal) fatter and healthier by providing lots of good food: *That thin little boy needs feeding up.* —see also **FED UP**

**feed**<sup>2</sup> *BrE* || **feeding** *AmE*— *n* 1 [C] a meal taken by an animal or baby: *How many feeds a day does the baby get?* 2 [U] food for animals: *a bag of hen feed* —see also **CHICKENFEED** 3 [C] the part of a machine through which the machine is supplied with power or **FUEL**: *There's a blockage in the petrol feed.* 4 [C] *BrE* a person who supplies a stage entertainer with lines or situations about which he/she can make jokes 5 [C] *AmE infml* a meal: *We had a pretty good feed at my uncle's yesterday.*

**feed-back** /'fiːdbæk/ *n* [U] 1 remarks about or in answer to an action, process, etc., passed back to the person (or machine) responsible, so that changes can be made if necessary: *The company welcomes feedback from people who use its goods.* | *There's been a lot of positive feedback on the new proposals. I asked my boss for feedback about my work.* | *The college uses feedback from students to prepare new training centres.* 2 uncontrolled noise from an electrical amplification (**AMPLIFY**) system

**feed-bag** /'fiːdbæg/ *n* *AmE* for **NOSEBAG**

**feed-er** /'fiːdə/ *BrE* || **eater** *AmE*— *n* 1 a person, animal or plant that eats or takes in food in the stated way: *Little Timmy is a noisy feeder.* 2 a branch road, airline, railway line, etc., that connects with a main one

**feeder school** /'fiːə ˈskʊl/ *n* a school, e.g. a **MIDDLE SCHOOL** (2), which regularly sends pupils to a **SECONDARY** school in the same area

**feeding** /'fiːdɪŋ/ *AmE* for **FEED**<sup>2</sup>(1)

**feeding bot-tle** /'fiːdɪŋ ˈbɒtl/ *BrE* || **baby bottle** *AmE*— *n* a bottle with a rubber cap (**TEAT** || **NIPPLE**) from which a baby can suck liquids

**feeding ground** /'fiːdɪŋ ɡraʊnd/ *n* a place where a group of animals or birds find food to eat

**Feeding of the Five Thou-sand** /,fiːdɪŋ ɒv ðə faɪv ˈθaʊzənd/ [the] a story from the Bible in which Jesus fed 5000 people with five loaves of bread and two fish. 12 full baskets of food remained when the people had finished eating.

**feed-lot** /'fiːdlɒt/ || -lɑːt/ *n* *AmE* a large enclosed area where cattle are fattened before being killed

**feel** /fiːl/ *v* **felt** /felt/ 1 [T] to get knowledge of by touching with the fingers; handle in order to examine, test, or find out something: *Just feel the quality of the cloth!* [+wh-] *I can't feel where the light switch is.* | *The nurse felt the child's forehead to see if he had a fever.* 2 [T not in progressive forms] to experience (the touch or movement of something): *It's nice to feel the wind on your face.* | *He felt a sudden stab of pain in his chest.* [+obj+v-ing] *I can feel a pin sticking into me.* | *She felt her heart beating faster.* [+obj+to-v] *I felt something touch my foot.* | *He felt her hand tense up in his.* 3 [L+adj; I+adv] to experience (a condition of the mind or body); be consciously: "Are you feeling better?" "Yes, I feel fine now." | *Do you feel hungry yet?* | *She felt cold/cheated/happy.* | *I feel sure that's him!* | *I feel a hundred.* (=years old) | *I felt as if/as though (=it seemed to me that) I was going to faint.* 4 [I+adv/prep] to search with the fingers rather than the eyes: *She felt (around) in her bag for a pencil.* 5 [L+adj; I+adv/prep] to give or produce the stated sensation; seem: *Your hands feel cold.* | *It feels cold in this room.* | *How does it feel to be a famous writer?* | *It feels as if/as though there's something sticking out of the mattress.* | *What's this in my pocket? It feels like a nut.* 6 [L+adj; I+adv] to give one the stated sensation: *My feet feel cold.* | *My leg feels as if it's broken.* 7 [T not in progressive forms] to suffer because of (a state or event): *Old people tend to feel the cold quite badly.* 8 [L+n] to think or believe oneself to be: *I*



*felt such a fool when I realized what I'd done.* **9** [T] to have as an opinion; believe, esp. not as a result of reasoning: *What do you feel about this idea?* [+ (that)] *I can't help feeling (that) you haven't been completely honest with me.* | *The company feels that this is not a good time to invest a large amount of money.* [+obj+n|adj] (fml) *She felt herself (to be) unwanted there.* **10** [T] to have knowledge or consciousness of, but not as the result of reasoning; SENSE: [+ (that)] *She instinctively felt that there was someone else in the room/that someone was following her.* **11** *feel free to do something* (often imperative) to consider oneself welcome to do something: *Please feel (completely) free to make suggestions.* **12** *feel in one's bones* to believe strongly (that something is true or will happen), though without proof: *She's going to phone tonight! I can feel it in my bones.* **13** *feel like* to have a wish for; want: *I don't feel like dancing now.* | *Do you feel like a cup of coffee?* **14** *feel one's way:* **a** to move carefully (as if) in the dark: *They felt their way down the dark passage.* **b** to act slowly and carefully: *He hasn't been in the job long and he's still feeling his way.*

*feel for* sbdy. *phr v* [T] to be sorry for; be unhappy about the suffering of; feel sympathy for: *I really feel for the parents of that boy who was killed in the crash.*

*feel* sbdy. ↔ *out phr v* [T] *AmE infml* to get (someone's) opinions or feelings, e.g. by asking questions: *Have you felt out your parents about using the cabin?*

*feel* sbdy. ↔ *up phr v* [T] *sl* to touch (a woman) sexually, usu. without permission. Feeling somebody up is likely to cause great offence.

**feel**<sup>2</sup> *n* [S] **1** the sensation caused by feeling something: *I like the feel of this cloth; it has a warm woolly feel.* **2** *infml, esp. BrE* an act of feeling: *Your neck looks swollen — let me have a feel.* **3** *get the feel of* to become used to: *You'll soon get the feel of the new job/car.*

**feel-er** /'fi:lə/ *n* **1** one of the two thread-like parts on the front of an insect's head, with which it touches things **2** *put out feelers* to make a suggestion as a test of what others will think or do: *I'm putting out feelers to see if she'd like to come and work for us.*



feelers

**feel-ing**<sup>1</sup> /'fi:liŋ/ *n* **1** [C+of] a consciousness (of something felt in the mind or body): *a feeling of shame/danger/thirst/pleasure/relief* | *feelings of shame/doubt* **2** [C;U] a belief or opinion, esp. one that is not based on reason: *There's considerable division of feeling (=different opinions) over the issue.* [+ (that)] *I have a feeling we're being followed.* | *There seems to be a general feeling that the election will be in June.* | *I don't really know what to think — I've got very mixed feelings on the subject.* **3** [U] the power to feel; sensation: *He lost all feeling in his toes.* **4** [U] excitement of mind, esp. in a bad sense: *The new working hours caused/aroused a lot of bad/ill feeling at the factory.* **5** [U (for)] sympathy and understanding: *She plays the piano with great feeling.* | *You have no feeling for the beauty of nature.* —see also FEELINGS

**feeling**<sup>2</sup> *adj* [A] showing strong feelings: *She gave him a feeling look.* — *~ly adv*: *"I hate him," she said feelingly.*

**feel-ings** /'fi:liŋz/ *n* [P] the part of a person's nature that feels, compared to the part that thinks; sensations of joy, sorrow, hate, etc.: *maternal/nationalist/antagonistic feelings* | *She has very strong feelings on this subject.* | *You'll hurt his feelings (=make him unhappy) if you forget his birthday.* | *I'm very sorry I offended you — no hard feelings? (=I hope you will forgive me)*

**fee-pay-ing** /'fi:peɪ/ *adj* **1** that pays FEES: *a fee-paying student/client* **2** that charges FEES: *a fee-paying school*

**feet** /fi:t/ *pl.* of FOOT —see also COLD FEET, ITCHY FEET

**feet of clay** /'fi:t əv 'klɔ:/ *n* [P] a hidden weakness, usu. of morals or principles: *They eventually realized that the leader they so admired had feet of clay.*

**feign** /feɪn/ *v* [T] **1** *fml* to pretend to have or be; put on a false air of: *He feigned death to escape capture.* | *a feigned illness* **2** *old use* to invent (an excuse, reason, etc.)

**feint**<sup>1</sup> /feɪnt/ *n* a false attack or blow, made to draw the enemy's attention away from the real danger

**feint**<sup>2</sup> *v* [I] to make a feint, esp. by pretending to hit with one hand and then using the other: *The boxer feinted with his left, and then landed a heavy punch with his right.*

**feist-y** /'faɪsti/ *adj* *AmE infml, often apprec* excited and keen to quarrel; COMBATIVE

**fe-la-fel** /fə'la:fəl/ *n* FALAFEL

**feld-spar** /'feldspɑː/ also **felspar**— *n* [U] a type of white or light red stone

**fe-li-ci-tate** /fi'lisɪteɪt/ *v* [T (on, upon)] *pomp or humor* to CONGRATULATE — **tations** /fi'lisɪ'teɪʃənz/ *n* [P]

**fe-li-ci-tous** /fi'lisɪtəs/ *adj fml* (of a word or remark) suitable and well-chosen — *~ly adv* — *~ness n* [U]

**fe-li-ci-ty** /fi'lisɪti/ *n fml* **1** [U] happiness **2** [C;U] (an example of) the quality of being felicitous

**fe-line** /'fi:lɪn/ *adj, n* (of or like) a member of the cat family: *Lions and tigers are felines.* | *There is a feline grace about the way she moves.*

**Fe-lix the Cat** /,fi:liks ðə 'kæt/ a CARTOON character for children, a black and white cat

**fell**<sup>1</sup> /fel/ *past tense* of FALL

**fell**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T] **1** to cut down (a tree) **2** to knock down (a person): *He felled his opponent in the first round.*

**fell**<sup>3</sup> also **fells pl.**— *n* *NEngE* **1** high wild rocky country **2** a hill or mountain

**fell**<sup>4</sup> *adj* [A] **1** *lit* evil, dangerous, and terrible: *a fell disease* **2** *at/in one fell swoop infml* all at once: *The gambler lost his money, his car, and his home at one fell swoop.*

**fel-la-ti-o** /fə'leɪʃɪəʊ/ *n* [U] *fml* the practice of touching the male sex organ with the lips and tongue in order to give sexual pleasure —compare CUNNILINGUS

**fel-ler** /'felə/ also **fel-la** /'felə/ *n infml* a FELLOW<sup>1</sup> (1, 4)

**Fel-li-ni** /fe'li:ni/, **Fed-e-ri-co** /,fedə'ri:kəʊ/ (1920–93) an Italian film director whose films include *La Dolce Vita*

**fel-low**<sup>1</sup> /'feləʊ/ *n* **1** *infml* a man: *See if those fellows want some beer.* | *How are you, old fellow?* **2** [(of)] *BrE* a member of a society connected with some branch of learning or of certain university colleges: *a Fellow of the Royal Society* | *She's a fellow of Girton College.* **3** (often in comb.) someone with whom one shares a (stated) activity or spends time in a (stated) place: *She and I were school-fellows. (=were at school together)* **4** *infml, esp. BrE* a boyfriend

**fellow**<sup>2</sup> *adj* [A] another (of two or more things or people like oneself): *one's fellow travellers/prisoners/students* | *It's nice to meet a fellow jazz fan.*

**fellow feel-ing** /,.. 'fɔ:/ *n* [S;U (for, with)] understanding and sympathy for someone who is like or has had similar experiences as oneself: *I have a lot of a certain fellow feeling with her because she's a migrant like me.*

**fel-low-man, fellow-man** /,feləʊ'mæn/ *n* -**men** /'men/ [S] human beings considered as a group: *charitable organizations which aim to help their fellowman*

**fel-low-ship** /'feləʊʃɪp/ *n* **1** [C] a group or society of people with a shared interest, esp. a group of Christians who meet together regularly to worship **2** [U] the condition of being friends through sharing or doing something together; companionship: *There was a strong feeling of fellowship amongst the members of the team.* **3** [C] *BrE* the position of a fellow of a college **4** [C] the money given to GRADUATES to allow them to continue their studies at an advanced level **5** [C] a group of officials who decide who is to receive this money

**fellow trav-el-ler** /,.. 'fɔ:/ *n* **1** someone who is travelling with you **2** *usu. derog* someone who is sympathetic to the aims of the Communist Party without being actually a member **3** someone who shares an idea or system of ideas which is believed in by only a small group of people: *During the mid-1980s several people were mentioned as Supreme Court nominees, along with such fellow travelers as Robert Bork.*

**fells** /felz/ *n* [P] FELL<sup>3</sup>

**fel-on** /'felən/ *n* **1** *law* a criminal guilty of felony **2** a WHITLOW

**fel-o-ny** /'feləni/ *n* [C;U] *law* (a) serious crime such as murder or armed robbery: *guilty of felony* | *felony charges* —compare MISDEMEANOUR —**nious** /fɪ'ləniəs/ *adj*

**fel-spar** /'feldspɑː/ *n* [U] FELDSPAR

**felt**<sup>1</sup> /felt/ *past tense & participle* of FEEL



**felt**<sup>2</sup> *n* [U] thick firm cloth made of wool, hair, or fur that has been pressed flat: *a felt hat*

**felt-tip pen** /ˌfɛltˈtɪp/ also **felt-tipped pen**, **felt tip** /ˌfɛltˈtɪp/ — *n* a pen with a small piece of felt at the end instead of a nib

**fem.** *written abbrev. for:* FEMININE

**fe-male**<sup>1</sup> /ˈfiːmeɪl/ *adj* 1 (typical) of the sex that gives birth to young: *a female elephant* | *We only employ female workers.* | *the female form* 2 (of a plant or flower) producing fruit 3 *tech* having a hole made to receive a part that fits into it: *a female plug* — ~ness *n* [U]

**female**<sup>2</sup> *n* 1 a female person or animal: *The female sat on the eggs while the male bird brought food.* 2 often derog a woman: *Some idiotic female asked me to sign an anti-government petition today.* 3 the female of the species is more deadly than the male *quote* a phrase from a poem by Rudyard Kipling, often used when saying how cruel women are

▷ **USAGE** Female and male are used as nouns and adjectives to show what sex a creature is. They are the usual words to use about animals: *a male/female elephant* | *The females are often more aggressive than the males.* They are the right words to use when you are completing forms: Sex: **male/female**, but otherwise are not usually used about people. It is offensive to call a woman *a female*. —see also FEMININE (USAGE)◀

**fem-i-nine** /ˈfemɪnɪn/ *adj* 1 of or having the qualities considered womanly, e.g. gentleness and prettiness: *a room decorated in feminine pinks and pastels* | *He has a rather feminine voice.* 2 *tech* (in grammar) for or belonging to the class of words that usu. includes most of the words for females: “Actress” is the feminine form of “actor”. | *The word for “door” is feminine in German.* | *a feminine ending* —compare MASCULINE, NEUTER

▷ **USAGE** Compare male/female and masculine/feminine. Female and male are used to show what sex a creature is: *a male chimpanzee*. They are also used when talking about things which relate to one sex or the other: *The female voice tends to be higher than the male voice.* | *the male/female body*. Feminine and masculine are used only of people, to describe qualities which are supposed to be typical of one or other sex: *He has delicate feminine hands.* | *He is a very masculine sort of person.* | *She has a deep masculine voice.*◀

**fem-i-nin-i-ty** /ˌfemɪˈnɪnɪti/ *n* [U] usu. *apprec* the quality of being FEMININE (1), esp. when considered attractive to men

**fem-i-nis-m** /ˈfemɪnɪzəm/ *n* [U] (activity in support of) the principle that women should have the same rights and chances as men —**nist** *adj*, *n*: *the feminist movement* | *feminist issues/fiction* | *an ardent feminist*

► **CULTURAL NOTE** The feminist or women's MOVEMENT in Britain and the US has tried to change the present system to give women equality with men, esp. in the areas of jobs and pay. Women's chances for education and jobs have improved since feminism began, but some people think that feminists do not like men or are LESBIANS. Many women today still want the same rights and chances as men but also want to keep some of the typical roles expected of women, such as staying at home to take care of children.◀

**femme fa-tale** /ˌfæm fəˈtɑːl/ *n* Fr *femmes fatales* (same pronunciation) a woman who attracts men, esp. into dangerous situations, by her mysterious charm

**fe-mur** /ˈfiːmə/ *n* **femurs** or **femora** /ˈfemərə/ *med* the long bone in the upper part of the leg —see picture at SKELETON —**femoral** /ˈfemərəl/ *adj*

**fen** /fen/ *n* an area of low wet land, esp. in E England —see also FENS

**fence**<sup>1</sup> /fens/ *n* 1 an upright structure like a wall, but made of posts of wood or metal joined together by boards of wood or wire, dividing two areas of land: *They were talking across the garden fence.* | *a picket fence* —compare WALL, and see picture at HOUSE 2 *sl* someone who buys and sells stolen goods 3 **on/off the fence** in/not in a situation where one avoids taking sides in an argument, in order to see where one's own advantage lies: *Stop sitting on the fence and say what you really think!* | *Why don't you come down off the fence and commit yourself for once?* —see also **mend (one's) fences** (MEND)<sup>1</sup>

**fence**<sup>2</sup> *v* 1 [I] to fight with a long thin sword as a sport 2 [I (for)] to try to gain an advantage over an opponent who is doing the same: *The two racing drivers fenced for a chance to gain the lead.* 3 [T (AROUND)] to put a fence round: *The tree was fenced around with wire.*

**fence** sthg./sbdy. ↔ **in** *phr v* [T] 1 to surround or close in (an area) with a fence, esp. to protect what is inside: *We fenced in the garden to keep the sheep out.* 2 to keep in by surrounding with a fence: *Why don't you fence your sheep in?* | (fig.) *I like being at home with the baby, but sometimes I feel very fenced in.*

**fence** sthg. ↔ **off** *phr v* [T] to separate or shut out (an area) with a fence: *We fenced off the lake in case the children should fall in.*

**fenc-er** /ˈfensə/ *n* someone who fences as a sport

**fenc-ing** /ˈfensɪŋ/ *n* [U] 1 the sport of fighting with a long thin sword 2 (material for making) fences: *Has the fencing been delivered to the site?* | *The camp was surrounded by wire fencing.*

**fend** /fend/ *v* **fend for oneself** to look after oneself: *I've had to fend for myself since I was 14.*

**fend** sthg. ↔ **off** *phr v* [T] to push away; act to avoid: *She fended off their blows with her arms.* | *He fended off the difficult questions.*

**fend-er** /ˈfendə/ *n* 1 a low metal wall round an open fireplace, to stop the coal from falling out 2 *AmE* for a WING<sup>1</sup> (4) (=a guard over the wheel of a car) —see picture at CAR b MUDGUARD —see picture at BICYCLE 3 an object such as a mass of rope, an old tyre, a lump of wood, etc., that hangs over the side of a boat to protect it from damage by other boats or when coming to land

**fender-bend-er** /ˈfɛndərˌbendər/ *n* *AmE infml* a car accident in which no people are hurt and there is only slight damage to cars: *Traffic was held up because of a fender-bender on the expressway.*

**fen-nel** /ˈfenl/ *n* [U] a plant with yellow flowers whose root can be eaten and whose leaves and seeds are used for giving a special taste to food

**Fens** /fenz/ [*the*] an area of flat land in E England which used to be partly covered by the sea and now produces good crops

**fe-nu-greek** /ˈfenjuˌɡriːk/ *n* [U] an Asian plant whose seeds are used for giving a special taste to food, esp. in Indian cooking

**fer-al** /ˈferəl, ˈfɪərəl/ *adj* [*no comp.*] *tech* (of an animal) wild, esp. after living with people and later escaping: *feral cats/pigeons*

**Fer-di-nand and Is-a-bel-la** /ˌfɜːdɪˈnænd ənd ɪzəˈbelə/ *n* Ferdinand (1452–1516), Spanish ruler with his wife Isabella I of Castile (1451–1504) also known as the Catholic Monarchs

**Fer-gie** /ˈfɜːgi/ *n* the name used in popular newspapers for Sarah Ferguson, the Duchess of York

**Fer-gu-son** /ˈfɜːɡəsən/ *n* **Sa-rah** /ˈseərə/ (1959– ) Sarah Ferguson, who married Prince Andrew in 1986 and has two daughters, Princess Beatrice (1988– ) and Princess Eugenie (1990– ). Her official title became the Duchess of York, although she was sometimes called Fergie in the popular newspapers. In 1992 it was officially stated that she and Prince Andrew were going to separate.

**Fer-man-agh** /fəˈmænə/ *n* a former COUNTY in the SW of Northern Ireland, now a local government DISTRICT

**fer-ment**<sup>1</sup> /fəˈment/ *v* [I;T] 1 to (cause to) change chemically and become filled with gas by the action of certain living substances such as YEAST, esp. in such a way that sugar turns to alcohol: *The wine is beginning to ferment.* | *Cider is fermented apple juice.* 2 to be in or cause (a state of political trouble and excitement): *His speeches fermented trouble among the workforce* — ~ation /ˌfɜːmenˈteɪʃən/ *n* [U]

**fer-ment**<sup>2</sup> /ˈfɜːment/ *n* [U] (the condition of) trouble and excitement, esp. of a political kind; UNREST: *The whole country was in a state of ferment.*

**Fer-mi** /ˈfɜːmi/ *n* **En-ri-co** /enˈriːkəʊ/ (1901–54) an Italian-born American scientist who won a NOBEL PRIZE and helped build the first NUCLEAR REACTOR

**fern** /fɜːn/ *n* a green plant with feathery shaped leaves and no flowers —**ferny** *adj*



**fe-ro-cious** /fə'raʊʃəs/ *adj*  
fierce, cruel, and violent: *a ferocious lion* | *a ferocious attack* | (fig.) *The heat is ferocious today.* — *~ly adv* — *~ness n* [U]

**fe-ro-ci-ty** /fə'rorsɪti|fə'raɪ-/ *n* [U] ferociousness

**Fer-ra-ri** /fə'raɪri/ *n* *tdmk* a car made by the Italian company Ferrari, famous for its speed and quality both as a road car and a racing car

**Fer-ra-ro** /fə'raɪrəʊ/, **Ger-al-dine** /'dʒerəldi:n/ (1935– ) an American Democrat politician. In 1984 she became the first woman in the US to be the vice-presidential (VICE-PRESIDENT) CANDIDATE from one of the two main parties.

**fer-ret**<sup>1</sup> /'ferɪt/ *n* **1** a small fierce European animal of the WEASEL family with a pointed nose, which catches rats and rabbits by going into their holes **2** someone who searches with great activity, esp. habitually

**ferret**<sup>2</sup> *v* [I] **1** [+adv/prep] *infml* to search by pushing things about: *I've been ferreting about/around in my desk for that missing letter.* **2** to hunt rats and rabbits with ferrets

**ferret** sthg. ↔ **out** *phr v* [T] *infml* to discover (something) by searching: *At last I managed to ferret out the truth.*

**Fer-ri-er** /'feriə/, **Kath-leen** /'kæθli:n/ (1912–53) an English concert singer known both in Europe and the US

**ferr-is wheel** /'ferɪs 'wi:l/ *n* *esp. AmE* for BIG WHEEL (1)

**fer-ro-con-crete** /,ferəʊ'kɒŋkri:t|-'kɑ:ŋ-, -kɑ:ŋ'kri:t/ *n* [U] REINFORCED CONCRETE

**fer-rous** /'ferəs/ *adj tech* related to or containing iron: *ferrous metals*

**fer-rule** /'feru:l, 'ferəl||'ferəl/ *n* a metal band or cap that is put on the end of a thin stick or tube

**fer-ry**<sup>1</sup> /'feri/ also **fer-ry-boat** /'feribəʊt/— *n* a boat that goes across a river or any other esp. narrow stretch of water, carrying people and things: *You can cross the river by ferry.* | *a car ferry* | *When does the next ferry leave?*

**ferry**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T+obj+adv/prep] to carry (as if) on a ferry: *The boatman ferried them across the river.* | *Every day I ferry the children to and from school in my car.*

**fer-ry-man** /'ferimən/ *n* — **men** /mən/ a person who guides a ferry across water

**fer-tile** /'fɜ:təl||'fɜ:rtl/ *adj* **1** producing many young, fruits, or seeds: *Some fish are very fertile: they lay thousands of eggs.* **2** (of land) which produces or can produce good crops: *fertile soil* **3** [no comp.] (of living things) able to produce young or fruit: *Are these eggs fertile?* **4** (of a person's mind) inventive; full of suggestions, ideas, etc.: *a fertile imagination* — opposite **infertile**; compare **BARR-EN**, **STERILE** — **-tility** /fɜ:'tɪlɪti||fɜ:r-/ *n* [U]: *Margaret wants a child so she's taking special drugs to increase her fertility.* | *a fertility symbol*

**Fertile Cres-cent** /,.. '.. / [*the*] an area of the MIDDLE EAST around the rivers Tigris and Euphrates, where many very old CIVILIZATIONS were based. The Fertile Crescent includes parts of Israel, Lebanon, Jordan, and Iraq.

**fer-ti-lize** also **-lize** *BrE* /'fɜ:tɪlaɪz||'fɜ:rtl-aɪz/ *v* [T] **1** to start the development of young (in a female creature or plant) by sexual or other means: *Bees fertilize the flowers.* **2** to put fertilizer on (land) — see also **CROSS-FERTILIZE** — **-lization** /,fɜ:tɪlaɪ'zeɪʃən||,fɜ:rtələ-/ *n* [U]: *Keep the eggs in a warm place after fertilization.*

**fer-ti-liz-er** /'fɜ:tɪlaɪzə||'fɜ:rtl-aɪzə/ *n* [C;U] a natural or chemical substance that is put on the land to make crops grow better: *Animal manure makes a good fertilizer.* | *artificial fertilizers*

**fer-vent** /'fɜ:vənt||'fɜ:r-/ *adj* being, having, or showing deep sincere feelings: *a fervent desire to win* | *a fervent nationalist* — *~ly adv*: *He fervently begged us not to go.* — **-vency** *n* [U]

**fer-vid** /'fɜ:vɪd||'fɜ:r-/ *adj fml* showing too strong feeling; IMPASSIONED: *his fervid support for capital punishment* — *~ly adv*

**fer-vour** *BrE* || **fervor** *AmE* /'fɜ:və||'fɜ:r-/ *n* [U] the qual-

**fern**



ity of being fervent or fervid; **ZEAL**: *religious/revolutionary fervour*

**fess** /fes/

**fess up** *phr v* [I;(to)] *AmE infml* to admit guilt or responsibility; **CONFESS**: *He fessed up to breaking the window when I told him insurance would cover it.* | *Come on, fess up! Who ate the last cookie?*

**fes-ter** /'festa:/ *v* [I] (of a cut or wound) to become infected and diseased: (fig.) *The memory of the insult continued to fester daily, until he could think of nothing else.*

**fes-ti-val** /'festɪvəl/ *n* **1** a special occasion, esp. in memory of a religious event, marked by public enjoyment, religious ceremonies, etc.: *Christmas is one of the festivals of the Christian church.* — see also **HARVEST FESTIVAL** **2** (often *cap.*) a group of esp. musical or theatrical performances held usu. regularly in a particular place: *the Cannes Film Festival* | *the Edinburgh Festival* | *a pop festival*

**Festival Hall** /,... ' / also **Royal Festival Hall**— [*the*] a large concert hall on the SOUTH BANK of the River Thames in London, built in 1951

**Festival of Nine Les-sons and Car-ols** /,... . ,. . . ' / *n* a service held just before Christmas in some Christian churches containing readings from the Bible and Christmas CAROLS — see also **CAROL SERVICE**

**fes-tive** /'festɪv/ *adj* of or suitable for a FESTIVAL (1): *The Christmas period is often called the festive season.* | (*lit or humor*) *They all sat round the festive board.* (=table spread with a FEAST) | *a festive occasion*

**fes-tiv-i-ty** /fe'stɪvɪti/ *n* [U] **1** happiness and festive activity **2** also **festivities pl.**— a festive event: *Don't stay in here on your own; come next door and join the festivities.* | *Christmas festivities*

**fes-toon**<sup>1</sup> /fe'stu:n/ *n* a chain of flowers, leaves, RIBBONS, etc., hung up in a curve between two points as a decoration

**festoon**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T (with)] to decorate with festoons: *The hall was festooned with flowers.*

**fet-a** /'fetə/ *n* [U] a kind of white, salty cheese made from sheep's or goat's milk

**fe-tal** /'fi:təl/ *adj* *AmE* foetal (FOETUS)

**fetch** /fetʃ/ *v* [T] **1** to go and get from another place and bring back: *Run and fetch the doctor!* [+obj(i)+obj(d)] *Could you fetch me a clean shirt from my bedroom?* **2** to be sold for: *The house should fetch a high price/at least £80,000.* **3** [+obj(i)+obj(d)] *esp. BrE infml* to strike with (a blow, kick, etc.): *I fetched him a clip round the ear.* **4** rare to breathe (esp. a deep breath or SIGH) **5** **fetch and carry (for)** to do small jobs (for someone), as if one was a servant: *You can't expect me to fetch and carry for you all day!* — see **BRING (USAGE)**

**fetch up** *phr v* [I+adv/prep] *BrE infml* to arrive; end up, esp. without planning: *I fell asleep on the train and fetched up in Glasgow.*

**fetch-ing** /'fetʃɪŋ/ *adj* *old-fash infml* attractive or pleasing in appearance: *a fetching outfit* — *~ly adv*

a village fete



**fete**<sup>1</sup>, **fête** /fet, fet/ *n* **1** *BrE* a day of public enjoyment and entertainment, held usu. out of doors in villages in summer. Often money is collected for a special purpose by selling cakes, JAM, home made woollen clothes, etc. and by providing tea, and games for the children: *Our*



village is holding a fete to raise money for the building of the new hall. 2 AmE a celebration or entertainment: *Prom Night is the fete of the year for high school students.*

**fete<sup>2</sup>**, *fête* *v* [T usu. pass.] to show honour to (someone) with public parties and ceremonies: *After it won the cup, the local football team was feted everywhere it went.*

**fe-tid** /'fɪtɪd/ || 'fetɪd/ *adj* smelling extremely bad; FOUL: *the fetid odour of the decomposing corpses*

**fet-ish** /'fetɪʃ, 'fɪz-/ *n* 1 an object that is worshipped as a god by people in some undeveloped societies, and is thought to have magic power 2 something to which one pays an unreasonable amount of attention or which one admires to a foolish degree: *Make sure you clean your room before he comes; he has a fetish about/makes a fetish of tidiness.* 3 *tech* (in PSYCHOLOGY) an object whose presence is necessary for sexual satisfaction

**fet-ish-is-m** /'fetɪʃɪzəm, 'fɪz-/ *n* [U] 1 the practice of worshipping fetishes 2 unreasonable attention to or admiration for something 3 *tech* (in PSYCHOLOGY) the practice of having a fetish —ist *n* —istic /,fetɪ'ʃɪstɪk/, 'fɪz-/ *adj*

**fet-lock** /'fetlɒk/ || -lɔ:k/ *n* the back part of a horse's leg near the foot, that has longer hairs on it than the upper part —see picture at HORSE

**fet-ter<sup>1</sup>** /'fetə/ *n* 1 a chain for the foot of a prisoner 2 also *fetters pl.* — something that prevents freedom of movement or action: *He longed to escape from the fetters of an unhappy marriage.*

**fetter<sup>2</sup>** *v* [T (to)] to tie or prevent from moving (as if) with fetters: *fettered by responsibility* —see also UNFETTERED

**fet-tle** /'fetl/ *n* [U] BrE *infml* (the stated) condition of health, strength, confidence, etc.: *I've been a bit ill recently, but I'm in fine fettle now.* | *Your lawn looks in good fettle.*

**fet-tu-cci-ne**, *fettucini* /,fetʊ'tʃɪni/ *n* [U] flat, thin PASTA in the shape of long bands

**fe-tus** /'fɪtəs/ *n* a FOETUS

**feud<sup>1</sup>** /fju:d/ *n* a state of strong dislike and/or violence which continues over some time as a result of a quarrel, usu. between two people, families, etc.: *a bitter feud over territory* —compare VENDETTA

**feud<sup>2</sup>** *v* [I (with)] (esp. of two families) to keep up the memory of a quarrel by violent acts; carry on a feud: *They spend their time feuding with their neighbours.*

**feud-al** /'fju:dl/ *adj* 1 [A no comp.] of, according to, or being the system by which people held land and received protection in return for giving work or military help, as practised in Western Europe from about the 9th to the 15th century: *the feudal system* | *their feudal lord* 2 *infml* (of behaviour or a relationship) like that which existed between lords and their servants in feudal times: *It seems a bit feudal to call him "sir".*

**feu-dal-is-m** /'fju:dl-ɪzəm/ *n* [U] the feudal system

**fe-ver** /'fɪ:və/ *n* [S;U] 1 (a medical condition caused by) an illness in which the sufferer suddenly develops a very high temperature: *Flu is an infectious disease characterized by fever, aches and pains, and exhaustion.* | *She has a very high fever.* | *The fever will soon go down/abate.* —see also HAY FEVER, SCARLET FEVER, YELLOW FEVER 2 [(of)] an extremely excited state: *He was in a fever of impatience waiting for her to come.* | *Football fever gripped the town when the local team reached the cup final.* | *Our excitement rose to fever pitch (=to the highest degree) as the great day approached.* | *The school is in a fever heat of excitement as the playoff approaches.*

**fever blis-ter** /'.., ɪ/ *n* AmE COLD SORE

**fe-ver-ed** /'fɪ:vəd/ || -ərd/ *adj* [A] 1 hot, (as if) when suffering from fever: *She wiped his fevered brow.* 2 too excited: *These lurid stories are merely a product of his fevered imagination.*

**fe-ver-ish** /'fɪ:vərɪʃ/ *adj* 1 having or showing a slight fever: *You're a bit feverish; you should go to bed.* 2 caused by fever: *a feverish dream* 3 extremely active or excited: *They worked with feverish haste to finish the job.* —~ly *adv*

**few** /fju:/ *determiner, pron, n* [P] 1 (used without a to show the smallness of a number) not many; not enough: *She has few friends.* | *I have very few (chocolates) left.* | *So few (people) came that we had to cancel the meeting.* | *Few of the children noticed the time passing.* | *Few understand*

*his complicated theories.* | *There are so few that I can't give you one.* (compare *There is so little that I can't give you any.*) | *I have too few chances to enjoy myself.* (compare *I have too little time ...*) | *It was an enormous ship; There were no fewer than (=at least) a thousand cars on it!* | *Which of you has the fewest mistakes?* —compare LITTLE<sup>3</sup> (1), PLENTY<sup>1</sup> 2 [no comp.] (used with a or the) a small number (of), but at least some: *She bought a few eggs and a little milk.* | *There are only a very few (=not many) left.* | *Let's invite a few friends to come with us.* | *Here are a few more stamps for your collection.* | *Can you stay a few days longer?* | *I'm keeping the few that remain for tomorrow.* | *John was among the few who really understood it.* | *She's been abroad for the last few years.* | *I may be a few minutes late.* | *Everyone was there — Tim, Paul, Jenny, Mandy, to name but a few.* | *She didn't invite me to her wedding, but my boss was one of the chosen few.* (=the few people to be invited) —compare LITTLE<sup>3</sup> (2) 3 *few and far between* rare; not happening often: *Sympathetic bosses like him are few and far between.* 4 *precious few infml* an extremely small number (of) 5 *quite a few* also a *good few, (fml) not a few* — a fairly large number (of): *Quite a few of us are getting worried.* | *You'll have to wait a good few weeks.*

▷ USAGE 1 Compare (a) few and (a) little. (A) few is used for plural nouns: *I have (a) few friends.* (A) little is used for uncountable nouns: *We drank (a) little coffee.* 2 Compare few and a few: *I have few friends* (=not many). | *I have a few friends.* (=some) Also little and a little: *There was little food left.* (=not much) | *We ate a little food* (=some). However it is more common to use very few/very little (=almost none) than few/little alone: *very few friends/very little food.* 3 Fewer and fewest are the comparative and superlative of few; less and least are the comparative and superlative of little: *We have fewer students this year than last year.* | *I earn less money than my sister.* In informal English less and least are often used with plural nouns, but many people do not like this use. —see also LESS (USAGE), MORE (USAGE)◀

**fey** /feɪ/ *adj* 1 (of a person or their behaviour) strange, silly, and not thinking clearly 2 ScotE able to see into the future —~ness *n* [U]

**Feyn-man** /'faɪnmən/, **Richard Phillips** (1918–88) an American PHYSICIST who won a Nobel prize and wrote a best-selling book about his life shortly before he died

**fez** /fez/ *n* *fezzes* or *fezes* a round usu. red hat with a flat top and no BRIM, worn by some Muslim men —see picture at HAT

**ff** *written abbrev. for:* and the following (pages, VERSES, etc.): *See pages 17ff*

**fi-an-cé** /fi'ɒnsɪ/ ||, fi:ɒn'sɪ/ *fem. fiancée* (same pronunciation) — *n* the person one is going to marry; person to whom one is ENGAGED: *George is my fiancé.* | *Martha is my fiancée.*

**Fi-an-na Fáil** /,fɪ:ɒnə 'fɔɪl/ an Irish political party organized in 1926 by people who were against the Anglo-Irish agreement of 1921 which established the Irish Free State. They have held power in the Republic of Ireland most of the time since then.

**fi-as-co** /fi'æskəʊ/ *n* -cos BrE || -coes AmE [C;U] a complete failure of something planned: *The party was a total fiasco/ended in fiasco.*

**fi-at** /'faɪæt, 'fɪ:æt/ || -ət/ *n fml, often derog* a command by someone in a position of power: *The matter was settled by presidential fiat.*

**Fiat** /'fɪ:ət/ *tdmk* an Italian company which makes cars: *He works for Fiat.* | *I've just bought a new Fiat.*

**fib** /fɪb/ *v* -bb- [I] *infml* to tell a small unimportant lie —fib *n*: to tell a fib —~ber *n*: *What a fibber he is!*

**Fib-ber Mc-Gee** /,fɪbə mə'gɪz/ || -bər-/ a character on an American radio programme in the 1940s which was called *Fibber McGee and Molly*. Every time Fibber McGee opened his CLOSET (=a large, built-in cupboard), everything fell out of it with a lot of noise. People often say of anything very untidy that it is like Fibber McGee's closet.

**fi-ber-fill** /'faɪbəfɪl/ || -bər-/ *n* [U] man-made filling used in PILLOWS, DUVETS, etc.

**fi-bre** BrE || **fiber** AmE /'faɪbə/ *n* 1 [C] any of the thin thread-like parts that together form many animal and



plant growths such as wool, wood, or muscle; some plant fibres are spun (SPIN<sup>1</sup> (2)) and woven into cloth: *nerve fibres* **2** also **dietary fibre** — parts of plants that you eat. Although one cannot DIGEST fibre, it helps food move through your body and is thought to be good for you: *You need more fibre in your diet — eat more bran and apples.* **3** [U] a mass of threads used for making cloth, rope, etc.: *Cotton fibre is natural; nylon is a man-made fibre.* —see also FIBREGLASS **4** [U] a person's inner character: *He was shocked to the very fibre of his being.* (=extremely shocked) | *He lacks moral fibre.* (=has a weak character) —see also FIBROUS

**fi-bre-board** BrE || **fiberboard** AmE /'faɪbəbɔ:d||-bɜ:bɔ:rd/ *n* [U] board made of wood fibres pressed together

**fi-bre-glass** BrE || **fiberglass** AmE /'faɪbəglɑ:s||-bɜ:glæs/ also **glass fibre**— *n* [U] material made from glass fibres that is used for making car bodies, small boats, and furnishing materials, and in buildings for keeping out the cold

**fibre op-tics** /,fɪə'ɒptɪks/ *n* [U] the use of very thin glass or plastic fibres to send light signals, esp. for carrying telephone signals

**fi-bro-si-tis** /,faɪbrə'saɪtɪs/ *n* [U] a painful RHEUMATIC disorder of the muscles

**fi-brous** /'faɪbrəs/ *adj* like or made of fibres: *The coconut has a fibrous outer covering.*

**fib-u-la** /'fɪbjʊlə/ *n* -lae /li:/ or -las *med* the outer of the two bones in the lower leg —see picture at SKELETON

**FICA** /'faɪkə, ˌef aɪ sɪz 'eɪ/ Federal Insurance Contributions Act; in the US, money which is taken out of one's pay to be used for SOCIAL SECURITY

**fiche** /fɪ:ʃ/ *n* [C;U] AmE for MICROFICHE

**fick-le** /'fɪkəl/ *adj* likely to change suddenly and without reason, esp. in love or friendship; CAPRICIOUS: *a fickle lover* | (fig.) *The weather's so fickle — one moment it's raining, the next the sun's out.* — **ness** *n* [U]

**fic-tion** /'fɪkʃən/ *n* **1** [U] stories or NOVELS about imaginary people and events, as compared to other sorts of literature like history or poetry: *a writer of popular fiction* | *I prefer light fiction to all those serious novels.* | *They say that truth is stranger than fiction.* —compare NONFICTION; see also SCIENCE FICTION **2** [S;U] an invention of the mind; an untrue story: *His account of the crime was (a) complete fiction.*

**fic-tion-al** /'fɪkʃənəl/ *adj* belonging to fiction; told as a story: *Jules Verne wrote a fictional account of a journey to the moon.* (=wrote about it as an imaginary event) —compare FICTITIOUS — **ly** *adv*

**fic-tion-al-ize** also **-ise** BrE /'fɪkʃənəlaɪz/ *v* [T] to write about (a true event) as if it were a story, changing some details, introducing imaginary characters, etc. —**ization** /,fɪkʃənəlaɪ'zeɪʃən||-lə-/ *n* [S;U] (of)

**fic-ti-tious** /fɪk'tɪʃəs/ *adj* untrue; invented; not real: *She invented a fictitious boyfriend to put him off.* | *His account of the incident was totally fictitious.* (=was completely different from the way it really happened) —compare FICTITIOUS — **ly** *adv*

**fid-dle** /'fɪdl/ *n* *infml* **1** [C] BrE a dishonest practice: *It's a fiddle — they put different labels on the bottles and sell them at five times the proper price.* | *a tax fiddle* | *They suspected he was on the fiddle.* (=doing dishonest things) **2** [S] an activity that is difficult because it needs delicate use of the fingers: *It's a bit of a fiddle to get all these wires back in the box.* **3** [C] a VIOLIN, esp. when used in JAZZ or popular music **4** **as fit as a fiddle** *infml* very fit and healthy **5** **play/be second fiddle (to)** to play/have a less important part (than): *She has never enjoyed playing second fiddle to the chairman.*

**fiddle**<sup>2</sup> *v* *infml* **1** [I(AROUND, with)] to move things aimlessly in one's fingers: *Put down that pen and stop fiddling!* | *Don't fiddle around with that gun — it might go off!* **2** [T] BrE to prepare (accounts) dishonestly to one's own advantage: *He was fined for trying to fiddle his income tax.* **3** [T] BrE to gain dishonestly: *He fiddled an extra ten pounds on his expenses claim.* **4** [T] AmE to repair or change slightly **5** [I] to play the VIOLIN **6** **fid-dle while Rome burns** to concern oneself with small matters while something important is happening (from the story of Nero who played the FIDDLE<sup>1</sup> (3) while the city of Rome was burning): *The government is fiddling*

*while manufacturing industry is burning.* —see also NERO —**fiddler** *n*

**fiddle about/around** *phr v* [I] to behave aimlessly or waste time on unimportant matters: *We can't fiddle about here all day; we've got to get going.*

**fiddle with** sthg. *phr v* [T] to touch or move (something that is not one's own): *I don't want you fiddling with my bicycle — leave it alone!*

**fiddle-fad-dle** /'fɪdl,fædl/ *n* [U] *infml* nonsense: *Don't talk fiddle-faddle.*

**fid-dle-sticks** /'fɪdl,stɪks/ *interj* old-fash Nonsense!

**fid-dling** /'fɪdlɪŋ/ *adj* [A] *infml* unimportant and silly PETTY; TRIVIAL

**fid-dly** /'fɪdli/ *adj* BrE *infml* **1** needing delicate use of the fingers: *It's a very fiddly job to get all these wires back into their holes.* **2** fiddling: *I can't be bothered with all these fiddly details.*

**fi-del-i-ty** /fɪ'delɪti/ *n* [U (to)] **1** [(to)] faithfulness; loyalty: *fidelity to one's leader/ideals* **2** loyalty in marriage shown by having a sexual relationship only with one's husband or wife —compare INFIDELITY; see also FAITHFUL<sup>1</sup> (3) **3** (of something copied or reported) closeness in sound, facts, colour, etc., to the original; exactness: *the fidelity of a translation/of a sound recording* —see also HIGH FIDELITY

**fid-get**<sup>1</sup> /'fɪdʒɪt/ *v* *infml* **1** [I (with)] to move one's body around restlessly, so that one annoys people: *Stop fidgeting, children; just sit still and listen to the music.* | *I wish you'd stop fidgeting with that box of matches.* **2** [T] to make (someone) nervous and restless: *The dripping tap fidgeted me so much I had to get up and turn it off.*

**fidget**<sup>2</sup> *n* *infml* someone, esp. a child, who fidgets: *Sit still, you little fidget!*

**fid-gets** /'fɪdʒɪts/ *n* [the+P] *infml* an attack of fidgeting: *She's got the fidgets again.*

**fid-get-y** /'fɪdʒɪti/ *adj* *infml* restless; fidgeting or wanting to fidget

**Fi-do** /'faɪdəʊ/ a name that is supposed to be a very common name given to dogs though dogs are in fact rarely named this: *They've called their mutt Fido as a joke.*

**fie** /faɪ/ *interj* [(on, upon)] old use or humor (expressing disapproval or shock) Shame!: *Fie upon you!*

**Fied-ler** /'fɪdlə/, Arthur (1894–1979) an American CONDUCTOR who conducted (CONDUCT) the BOSTON POPS ORCHESTRA for many years

**field**<sup>1</sup> /fɪ:ld/ *n* **1** [C] an enclosed area of land, usu. part of a farm, used for animals or crops: *fields of corn* | *a field full of sheep* **2** [C] (usu. in comb.) an open area where a the stated game is played: *a football field* **b** the stated substance is mined (MINE<sup>4</sup> (2)): *an oilfield* | *the Yorkshire coalfields* **c** the stated activity is practised: *an airfield* | *a battlefield/field of battle* **d** the surface is of the stated kind: *a snowfield/field of snow* **3** [C] a branch of knowledge or area of activity: *a lawyer famous in his own field* | *the field of politics/art/Greek history* | *That's outside my field.* (=not my special subject) | *exciting business opportunities in the electronics field* —see also **never in the field of human conflict**... (CONFLICT<sup>1</sup> (3)) **4** [the+S] the place where practical operations happen, as compared to places where they are planned or studied, such as offices, factories, and universities: *She's studying tribal languages in the field.* (=living with the people who speak them) | *Our class is doing a field trip to study animals and plants in the local countryside.* —see also FIELD-TEST, FIELDWORK **5** [C] (in PHYSICS) the area in which the stated force is felt: *the moon's gravitational field* **6** [C+sing./pl. v] all the horses in a race **a** except the FAVOURITE (=the one that is expected to win): *The betting is 9-4 the field.* **b** including the FAVOURITE: *The rest of the field is/are far behind Red Rum.* **7** [the+S+sing./pl. v] (in cricket or BASEBALL) the team that are fielding (=stopping) the ball rather than hitting it: *The captain brought the field in closer to stop the batsmen taking a quick run.* **8** [C] the part on the surface of a coin or flag that is not the pattern: *Their flag shows a red lion on a white field.* **9** [C] *tech* an area of fixed length within a DATA record set aside for a particular type of information: *The field for the user's name and surname is 25 characters.* **10** **take the field**: **a** to go on to a sports field in order to begin play **b** to go to war **11** **play the field** AmE *infml* to DATE (=go out with) many people of the



opposite sex rather than just one: *Don't expect a commitment from him, he likes to play the field.* —see also FIELD OF VISION

**field**<sup>2</sup> *v* 1 [T] (in cricket and BASEBALL) to stop (a ball that has been hit) 2 [I] to be (a member of) the team whose turn it is to do this because they are not batting (BAT<sup>2</sup> (2)): *We'll be fielding in the afternoon.* 3 [T] to produce or have (a team, army, etc.): *The school fields two football teams.* 4 [T] to answer (a difficult question) cleverly and skilfully: *The Minister had to field some tricky questions from the reporters.*

**Field, The** a British magazine which has articles on the countryside, field sports, and farming. "The Field" is connected in people's minds with wealthy people who live and own land in the country.

**Field & Stream** /, · · · / an American magazine read mostly by men; that has articles about hunting, fishing, and outdoor life

**field corn** /, · · · / *n* [U] *AmE* MAIZE grown to be used as grain or to be fed to animals, rather than to be eaten as a vegetable —compare SWEET CORN

**field day** /, · · · / *n* 1 a day on which schoolchildren are taken outdoors for a planned activity such as sport or the study of nature 2 **have a field day** *infml* to get great enjoyment or the greatest possible advantage, esp. when making full use of a chance to do what one likes doing: *If the newspapers get hold of this scandal they'll really have a field day!*

**field-er** /'fi:ldə/ also **fields-man** *BrE* — *n* (in cricket or BASEBALL) a player in the team that is fielding (FIELD<sup>1</sup>) or one who fields regularly: *a first class fielder* —see pictures at BASEBALL and CRICKET

**field e-vent** /, · · · / *n* (in ATHLETICS) a sports event, such as weight-throwing or jumping, that is not a race but which is a competition —compare TRACK EVENT

**field glass-es** /, · · · / *n* [P] BINOCULARS

**field goal** /, · · · / *n* *AmE* 1 (in FOOTBALL) the act of kicking the ball over the bar of the GOAL 2 also **basket**— (in BASKETBALL) putting the ball through a circle called a HOOP (=BASKET (3)) during play

**field hock-ey** /, · · · / *n* [U] *esp. AmE* for HOCKEY —compare ICE HOCKEY

**Fiel-ding** /'fi:ldɪŋ/, **Henry** (1707–54) an English writer most famous for his NOVEL *Tom Jones*

**field mar-shal** /, · · · / *n* an officer of high rank in the British army —see TABLE 3

**field of vi-sion** /, · · · / *n* **fields of vision** the whole space within seeing distance; all that can be seen: *The tall building obstructed our field of vision.*

**Fields** /fi:ldz/, **Dame Gra-cie** /'greɪsi/ (1898–1979) an English singer and entertainer from Lancashire, in NW England, who was known as "Our Gracie" at the height of her popularity in the 1930s. During the Second World War, her song "Wish Me Luck as You Wave Me Good-bye" was very popular.

**Fields, W. C.** (1880–1946) an American film actor and COMEDIAN who was famous esp. for not liking children

**fields-man** /'fi:ldzmən/ *n* -men /mən/ a FIELDER

**field sports** /, · · · / *n* [P] country sports, such as hunting, shooting, and fishing

**field-test** /, · · · / *v* [T] to try (something) out in the FIELD<sup>1</sup> (4): *The apparatus has all been field-tested in tropical conditions.* —**field test** *n*

**field trip** /, · · · / *n* a journey made (usu. by a group of students) for the purpose of study: *We're going to France on a geology field trip next year.*

**field-work** /'fi:ldwɜ:k/ -wɜ:rk/ *n* [U] scientific or social study done in the FIELD<sup>1</sup> (4), such as measuring and examining things or asking people questions —~er *n*

**fiend** /fi:nd/ *n* 1 a devil or evil spirit 2 *infml* someone very keen on the stated thing: *He's a fresh air fiend.* 3 *AmE infml* a person, esp. a child, who plays tricks and annoys people: *Her kids are little fiends.*

**fiend-ish** /'fi:ndɪʃ/ *adj* 1 fierce and cruel: *She has a fiendish temper.* 2 *infml* unpleasantly clever or difficult; not plain or simple: *a fiendish plan/question* 3 (of difficulty or cleverness) very great: *He had worked out a plan of fiendish complexity.* | *fiendish cunning* —~ly *adv*: *a fiendishly difficult question* —~ness *n* [U]

**fierce** /fiəs/|fiərs/ *adj* 1 angry, violent, and likely to attack: *The house is guarded by a fierce dog.* | *He had a very fierce look on his face.* 2 marked by strong feeling: *They were having a fierce argument, and I thought they might end up hitting each other.* | *fierce loyalty* 3 very severe; INTENSE: *Because there is so much unemployment, the competition for jobs is fierce.* | *The plants wilted in the fierce heat of the tropical sun.* —~ly *adv*: *fiercely loyal* | *the fiercely competitive job market* —~ness *n* [U]

**fi-er-y** /'faɪəri/ *adj* 1 (as if) on fire: *a fiery sunset* | *She has fiery red hair.* | *This curry is pretty fiery.* (=hot-tasting) 2 (likely to be) full of violent feeling: *He has a fiery temper.* | *His fiery speech roused his audience to anger.*

**fi-es-ta** /fi'estə/ *n* (esp. in Spain and South America) a religious holiday with public dancing and other entertainments

**Fiesta** *n* *tdmk* a popular small car made by FORD

**FIFA** /'fi:fə/ Fédération Internationale de Football Association; the organization for international football and the World Cup

**fife** /faɪf/ *n* a small musical pipe with high notes that is played in military bands, often with drums

**Fife** a REGION in E Scotland between the FIRTHS of Tay and Forth and including Glenrothes, St Andrews, and Kirkcaldy

**fif-teen** /,fi:f'ti:n/ *determiner, n, pron* 1 (the number) 15 —see TABLE 1 2 **fifteen men on the dead man's chest** — **yo-ho-ho and a bottle of rum** *quote* lines from a song sung by PIRATES in the story *Treasure Island* by Robert Louis Stevenson —**teenth** *determiner, n, pron, adv*

**fifth** /fɪfθ, fi:fθ/ *determiner, n, pron, adv* 1 5th —see TABLE 1 2 an amount equalling 1/5th of a GALLON (=just over a litre) of strong alcoholic drink: *a fifth of bourbon*

**Fifth A-mend-ment** /, · · · / [*the*] *AmE law* 1 a part of the American CONSTITUTION which says that a person does not have to state facts against himself in a criminal trial and that no one can be put in prison or have their property taken away without a trial 2 **plead/take the Fifth** to refuse to testify: (fig.) *"I plead the fifth," he said when his wife wanted to know where he'd been.*

**Fifth Av-e-nue**, **5th Avenue** /, · · · / *n* a street in New York, famous for its expensive shops —see colour map on page 1376

**fifth col-umn** /, · · · / *n* a group of people who are secretly sympathetic to the enemies of the country they live in, and work to help them during a war —~ist *n*

**fifth-gen-er-a-tion com-put-er** /, · · · / *n* a type of computer that can develop knowledge and use it to make its own judgments and decisions, in a way that is similar to the processes of the human brain

**fifth wheel** /, · · · / *n* *AmE infml* an unwanted person or thing: *She felt like a fifth wheel at the party since everyone else seemed to have paired off.*

**fif-ties** /'fɪftiz/ *n* [P] 1 [*the*] also '50s— the 1950s (=the years from 1950 to 1959): *There was a new era of material affluence in the fifties and living standards rose.* 2 in his/her/their fifties ages from 50 to 59: *He began to feel more financially secure in his early fifties.* 3 [*the*] the numbers from 50 to 59, esp. when used to measure temperature: *rather a cold day with the temperatures in the mid fifties*

**fif-ty** /'fɪfti/ *determiner, n, pron* (the number) 50 —see TABLE 1 —**tieth** *determiner, n, pron, adv*

**fifty-fif-ty** /, · · · / *adj, adv* (of shares or chances) equal(ly): *We divided it up fifty-fifty/on a fifty-fifty basis.* | *Let's go fifty-fifty.* (=each be responsible for half) | *There's a fifty-fifty chance that he will succeed.*

**fig** /fig/ *n* 1 [C] (a broad-leaved tree that bears) a soft sweet fruit with many small seeds, growing chiefly in warm countries 2 [S *usu. in questions and negatives*] *infml* a worthless amount: *I don't care/give a fig (for) what you think.* (=I don't care at all) | *Her advice isn't worth a fig.* —see also FIG LEAF, and see picture at FRUIT

**fig.** *written abbrev. for:* 1 FIGURATIVE 2 FIGURE<sup>1</sup> (6)

**fight**<sup>1</sup> /faɪt/ *v* **fought** /fɔ:t/ 1 [I;T] to use physical violence against (as if) in a battle: *Did your father fight in the last war?* | *Britain fought against/with the US in the War of*



**Independence; the Americans were fighting for** *[fighting to gain their freedom. | Stop fighting (=each other), you two! | The two dogs were fighting over (=because of) the scraps of food. | We vowed to fight on (=continue fighting) until all our demands were met. | I can fight any man here! | The two boxers fought to a finish. (=until one was completely defeated) | (fig.) He fought the other contenders for leadership of the party. | (fig.) Women have had to fight for equal rights. | (fig.) He fought his way through the crowd. 2 [I(over, about)] to quarrel: He and his wife are always fighting (about who will take the car). 3 [T] to take part in (a war, battle, etc.): They fought a duel. | (fig.) I'm afraid the rail unions are fighting a losing battle (=one that they are certain to lose) over driver-only trains. 4 [T] to try to prevent; stand against: The firemen fought the blaze very bravely. | The pressure group was formed to fight the closure of the hospital. 5 fight shy of to avoid getting mixed up in: I rather fought shy of telling her the truth about her husband. 6 fight the good fight saying from the Bible to struggle to live one's life according to the rules and customs of one's religion: He believed that all Christians should fight the good fight and spread the word. 7 'Tis better to have fought and lost than never to have fought at all quote a phrase from a poem by Arthur Hugh Clough 8 We shall fight on the beaches, we shall fight on the landing grounds, we shall fight in the fields and in the streets, we shall fight in the hills; we shall never surrender. quote a phrase from a speech by Winston Churchill, made to the British Parliament in 1940. This speech is seen by British people as a sign of their determination to win the Second World War even if it meant suffering great hardship.*

**fight back** *phr v* [I] to make a great effort to recover from a bad or losing position; defend oneself by fighting: The government is agonizing about how to fight back at the terrorists without endangering the hostages.

**fight sbdy./sthg. ↔ off** *phr v* [T] to keep away by violent action: The pop star had to fight off all the screaming teenagers who were trying to touch him. | (fig.) She took various medicines to try to fight off her cold.

**fight sthg. out** *phr v* [T] to settle (a disagreement) by fighting: I'm not going to interfere in their quarrel; they'll have to fight it out between them.

**fight<sup>2</sup>** *n* 1 [C] an act of fighting between two people, groups, countries, etc.; battle: The police were called in to stop the fight (between the two gangs). | Are you going to the big fight (=BOXING match) tonight? | (fig.) The fight against drug abuse goes on. | (fig.) Our team put up a good fight (=struggled well), but were beaten in the end. 2 [U] also **fighting spir·it** /,fɪtɪŋ 'spɪrɪt/ the power or desire to fight: There's not much fight left in him now. | The news of the defeat took all the fight out of us.

**fighter** /'faɪtə/ *n* 1 someone who fights, esp. a professional soldier or BOXER: (fig.) a tireless fighter against racism 2 a small fast military aircraft that can destroy enemy aircraft in the air: a fighter pilot —compare BOMBER (1)

**fighting chance** /,fɪtɪŋ 'tʃɑːns/ *n* [S] *infml* a small but real chance if great effort is made: [+ (that)] There's just a fighting chance that we'll be able to escape.

**fight or flight syn·drome** /,fɪtɪŋ ɔːr 'flaɪt sɪn'drɒm/ also **fight or flight re·ac·tion** /,fɪtɪŋ ɔːr 'flaɪt ri'eɪʃən/ *n* [the] the body's natural way of behaving in answer to danger, excitement, or STRESS. These include increases in heart rate, in the levels of HORMONES, and in the amount of blood sent to the muscles.

**fig leaf** /'fɪɡ liːf/ *n* 1 the large leaf of the FIG tree. Fig leaves are often shown as covering people's sex organs in paintings, esp. paintings of Adam and Eve. 2 something that hides (something else), esp. unsuccessfully or dishonestly

**fig·ment** /'fɪgmənt/ *n* a figment of someone's imagination something believed but not real

**Fig New·ton** /,fɪɡ 'njuːtən/ *tdmk* a kind of BISCUIT filled with sweet FIGS and sold in the US

**fig·u·ra·tive** /'fɪɡjʊrətɪv, -gə-/ *adj* (of a word, phrase, meaning, etc.) used in some way other than the main or usual meaning, to suggest a picture in the mind or make a comparison. Words or expressions used in a figurative way are marked (fig.) in this dictionary: "A sweet temper" is a figurative expression, but "sweet coffee" is not.

—compare LITERAL<sup>1</sup> (1) — ~ *ly adv*: He's up to his eyes in paperwork — figuratively speaking, of course!

**fig·ure** /'fɪɡə/ || 'fɪɡjə/ *n* 1 (the shape of) a whole human body: I could see a figure in the far distance, but I couldn't make out who it was. | There is a group of figures on the left of the painting. 2 the human shape considered from the point of view of being attractive

► **CULTURAL NOTE** British and American people generally like to look SLIM. A man is usu. thought to have a good figure if he has broad shoulders, strong muscles, and slim, strong legs. A woman is thought to have a good figure if she has a narrow waist, long, slim legs, and quite large breasts: She has a lovely figure. | He's doing exercises to improve his figure. | She's past forty now, but she's kept her figure. (=still has a good shape) —see BODY (USAGE) ◀

3 a person of a particular type: He was one of the leading political figures of this century. | a central/key figure in the negotiations 4 any of the number signs from 0 to 9: Write the number in words and in figures. | I'm no good at figures/haven't got a head for figures! (=sums) | Her income is in six figures. | She has a six-figure income. (=at least £100,000) 5 an amount, esp. of money: They're asking a high figure for their house. | The crowd is very big, but I couldn't put a figure on it. (=say exactly what the number of people is) 6 an often numbered drawing or DIAGRAM used in a book to explain something 7 a pattern performed in FIGURE SKATING

**figure<sup>2</sup>** *v* 1 [I (as, in)] to take an esp. important or noticeable part; appear: His name did not figure in the list of those who had received awards. | The vice-president figured prominently in the peace negotiations. 2 [T+(that); obj] esp. AmE to consider; believe: I figured (that) you'd want to see me about it. 3 That figures *infml* That seems reasonable and is what I expected.

**figure on sthg.** *phr v* [T] esp. AmE to plan on; include in one's plans: [+obj/v-ing] I'm figuring on (getting) a \$600 pay increase. [+obj+v-ing] I figured on him leaving at 6 o'clock.

**figure sbdy./sthg. ↔ out** *phr v* [T] to come to understand or discover by thinking: I can't figure him out — he's a mystery! [+wh-] We still haven't figured out how to do it.

**fig·ured** /'fɪɡəd/ || 'fɪɡjəd/ *adj* [A] decorated with a small pattern: a dress of figured silk

**figured bass** /,fɪɡəd 'bæs/ *n* CONTINUO

figurehead



**fig·ure·head** /'fɪɡəhed/ || 'fɪɡjə-/ *n* 1 a representation in wood, usu. of the top half of a woman, that in former times was placed at the front of a ship 2 someone who is the head or chief in name only: The President is just a figurehead; it's the party leader who has the real power.

**figure of eight** /,fɪɡjə 'eɪt/ also **figure eight** /,fɪɡjə 'eɪt/ *n* AmE— something in the shape of the number 8, such as a knot, stitch, or dance pattern

**figure of speech** /,fɪɡjə 'spiːtʃ/ *n* an example of the FIGURATIVE use of words: I didn't really mean that my boss is a rat; it was just a figure of speech.

**figure skat·ing** /'fɪɡjə 'skɑːtɪŋ/ *n* [U] SKATING in which one cuts patterns in the ice —er *n*

**fig·u·rine** /,fɪɡjʊ 'rɪn, 'fɪɡjʊ 'rɪn/ || 'fɪɡjʊ 'rɪn/ *n* a small decorative human figure made of baked clay, cut stone, etc.

**Fi·ji** /'fɪdʒi:/ a country in the SW Pacific Ocean made up of many islands; capital Suva; population 732,000 (1989) —Fijian /fɪ:'dʒi:ən/ || 'fɪ:dʒiən/ *n, adj*



**fil-a-ment** /'fɪləmənt/ *n* a thin thread, such as the thin piece of metal inside an electric light **BULB**

**fil-bert** /'fɪlbət || -bɜ:t/ *n* *AmE* **HAZEL**<sup>1</sup> (3)

**filch** /fɪltʃ/ *v* [T] to steal (something of small value) secretly; **PILFER**

**file**<sup>1</sup> /faɪl/ *n* a steel tool with a rough face, used for rubbing down, making smooth, or cutting through hard surfaces —see also **NAIL FILE**, and see picture at **TOOL**

**file**<sup>2</sup> *v* [I+adv|prep;T] to rub or cut with a file: *The prisoner filed through his bars and escaped.* | *She was filing her nails.* | *File down this rough spot.* [+obj+adj] *He filed the wood smooth.*

**file**<sup>3</sup> *n* 1 a box, **FOLDER**, etc. for storing papers in an ordered way, esp. in an office —see also **FILING CABINET** 2 [(on)] a collection of papers concerning one subject, stored in this way: *Here's our file on the Middle East.* | *I'll keep your report on file.* (=stored in a file) | *a confidential file* 3 a collection of information for a computer stored under one name on a **DISK** or **CASSETTE**: *a text file* | *a data file* | *a file name*

**file**<sup>4</sup> *v* [T] 1 [(AWAY)] to put (papers or letters) in a **FILE**<sup>3</sup>: *Please file this letter (away), Mrs Jellaby.* 2 law to send in or record officially: *They filed an application to have their case heard early.* | *Charges have been filed against him.*

**file for sthg.** *phr v* [T] law to request officially: *They have filed for a divorce.*

**file**<sup>5</sup> *n* [C+sing./pl. *v*] a line of people one behind the other —see also **RANK AND FILE**, **SINGLE FILE**

**file**<sup>6</sup> *v* [I+adv|prep] to march in a **FILE**<sup>5</sup>: *They filed slowly past the grave of their leader.*

**file foot-age** /'fɪl fʊt-əʒ/ *n* [U] *AmE* for **LIBRARY PICTURES**

**fil-et** /'fɪlət || 'fɪlət, -leɪ, fɪ 'leɪ/ *n, v* *AmE* for **FILLET**

**fil-et mi-gnon** /,fɪleɪ 'mɪːnjɒn || fɪ,leɪ mɪn'jɒːn/ *n* *Fr* a small, tender piece of **BEEF STEAK**. In the US **filet mignon** is considered to be something that rich people eat or that is served only in very expensive restaurants.

**fi-li-al** /'fɪliəl/ *adj* *fml* of or suitable to a son or daughter: *filial respect*

**fil-i-bus-ter** /'fɪləbʌstə/ *v* [I] *esp. AmE* to try to delay or prevent action in a lawmaking body by making very slow long speeches —**filibuster** *n*

**fil-i-gree** /'fɪləɡriː/ *n* [U] delicate decorative wire work: *silver filigree jewellery*

**filing cab-i-net** /'fɪlɪŋ kəbɪnət/ *n* a piece of office furniture with drawers, shelves, etc. for storing **FILES**<sup>3</sup>

**fil-ings** /'faɪlɪŋz/ *n* [P] very small sharp bits that have been rubbed off a metal surface with a **FILE**<sup>1</sup>: *iron filings*

**fill**<sup>1</sup> /fɪl/ *v* 1 [I;T (with)] to make or become full: *The cinema was filling fast.* | *The apples filled the basket.* | *She filled the jug to the brim/fill it with water.* | *The wind filled (=swelled out) the sails.* [+obj+adj] *You've filled the bath too full.* | (fig.) *Laughter filled the room.* | (fig.) *The thought fills me with dread.* 2 [T] to be in or be put into (an office or position): *There is no one who can fill the office of president with as much credibility as our candidate.* | *John's the best person to fill this vacancy.* | *I'm afraid the post has already been filled.* (=the job has been given to someone else) 3 [T] to meet the needs or demands of; fulfil: *This should fill your requirements nicely.* 4 [T] to put a **FILLING** in (a tooth) 5 **fill the bill** *AmE* for **fit the bill** (**FIT**<sup>1</sup>)

**fill in** *phr v* 1 [T] (fill sthg. ↔ in) to put in (whatever is needed to complete something): *You draw the people and the children can fill them in.* (=add colour to them) | *Fill in your name on this cheque.* | *Please fill in this application form.* 2 [T(on)] (fill sbdy. in) to supply the most recent information to: *Could you fill me in on what happened at the meeting?* 3 [I (for)] to take someone's place: *Can you fill in for Steve tonight as he's ill?* —see also **FILL-IN** 4 [T] (fill sthg. ↔ in) to use up (unwanted time): *What can we do to fill in the afternoon?*

**fill out** *phr v* 1 [I] to get fatter: *Her face is beginning to fill out as she puts on weight* 2 [T] (fill sthg. ↔ out) *esp. AmE* for **fill in** (1)

**fill up** *phr v* 1 [I;T (=fill sthg. ↔ up)] to make or become completely full: *The room soon filled up (with people).* | *Fill her up, please.* (said to someone putting petrol in one's car) 2 [T] (fill sthg. ↔ up) *esp. BrE* to complete

(a form) by answering the questions in the spaces provided

**fill**<sup>2</sup> *n* 1 [(of)] a full supply; the quantity needed to fill something: *Would you like a fill of my tobacco?* (=for your pipe) 2 **one's fill**: a as much as one can bear: *The children are getting on my nerves — I've had my fill of them for this evening!* b lit as much as one can eat or drink: *He drank his fill.*

**filled gold** /ɪ- 'l-/ *n* [U] **ROLLED GOLD**

**fill-er** /'fɪlə/ *n* [S;U] 1 a substance that is added to another, to increase the size or weight 2 material used for filling cracks in wood, walls, etc. before painting 3 *AmE* written or drawn material, esp. in magazines or newspapers, that is not very important and is only there to complete the page: *It seems like half the articles in this magazine are just filler.*

**fil-let**<sup>1</sup> also **filet** *AmE* /'fɪlət || 'fɪlət, -leɪ, fɪ 'leɪ/ *n* a piece of meat or fish without bones, for eating: *a fillet steak* | *fillets of sole*

**fillet**<sup>2</sup> also **filet** *AmE v* [T] to remove the bones from (fish): *Will you fillet it for me please?* | *filleted sole*

**fill-in** /'fɪl-ɪn/ *n* *informal* someone or something that **FILLS IN** (3): *I'm only here as a fill-in while Robert's away.*

**fill-ing**<sup>1</sup> /'fɪlɪŋ/ *n* 1 (the material used for) the filling of a hole in a tooth to preserve it from decay: *The dentist gave me a temporary filling/a gold filling.* | *You've got a lot of fillings.* 2 a food mixture folded inside pastry to make a **PIE**, bread to make a **SANDWICH**, etc.

**filling**<sup>2</sup> *adj* (of food) that makes one's stomach feel full; satisfying

**filling station** /'fɪlɪŋ stəʃən/ also **petrol station** *BrE* || also **gas station** *AmE* — *n* a place where petrol and oil are sold and repairs to motor vehicles may also be done —compare **GARAGE**<sup>1</sup> (2)

**fil-lip** /'fɪləp/ *n* [(to)] something that brings encouragement or increases attraction and interest: *A valuable order from Japan gave the new company a big fillip.*

**Fill-more** /'fɪlmɔːr/, **Mil-lard** /'mɪlərd || -ərd/ (1800–74) the 13th US president

**fil-ly** /'fɪli/ *n* a young female horse —compare **COLT**

**film**<sup>1</sup> /fɪlm/ *n* 1 [C;U] (a roll of) material which is sensitive to light and which is used in a camera for taking photographs or moving pictures for the cinema: *I let some light in while I was loading the film into the camera.* | *The whole incident was recorded on film.* | *high-speed film* —see picture at **ROLL** 2 [C] *esp. BrE* || usu. **movie** *esp. AmE* — a story, play, etc. recorded on film to be shown in the cinema, on television, etc.: *Have you seen any good films lately?* | *a film actor* | *a documentary/news film* —see also **BLUE FILM**, **SILENT FILM** 3 [S;U] a thin skin of any material: *A film of dust/oil formed on the surface of the water.* | *Cover the food with a piece of plastic film.*

**film over** *phr v* [I] to become dull, as if covered with a **FILM**<sup>1</sup> (3): *His eyes filmed over, and I thought he was going to cry.*

**film**<sup>2</sup> *v* 1 [I;T] to make a film for the cinema, television, etc.: *We'll be filming all day tomorrow.* | *We had to film the scene five times before we got it right.* 2 [I+adv] to be the subject of a cinema picture: *The duel scene filmed beautifully in the end.*

**film prem-i-ère** /'fɪl mɪ-ɪ-ə || 'fɪ-ɪ-ə/ *n* the first showing of a new cinema film

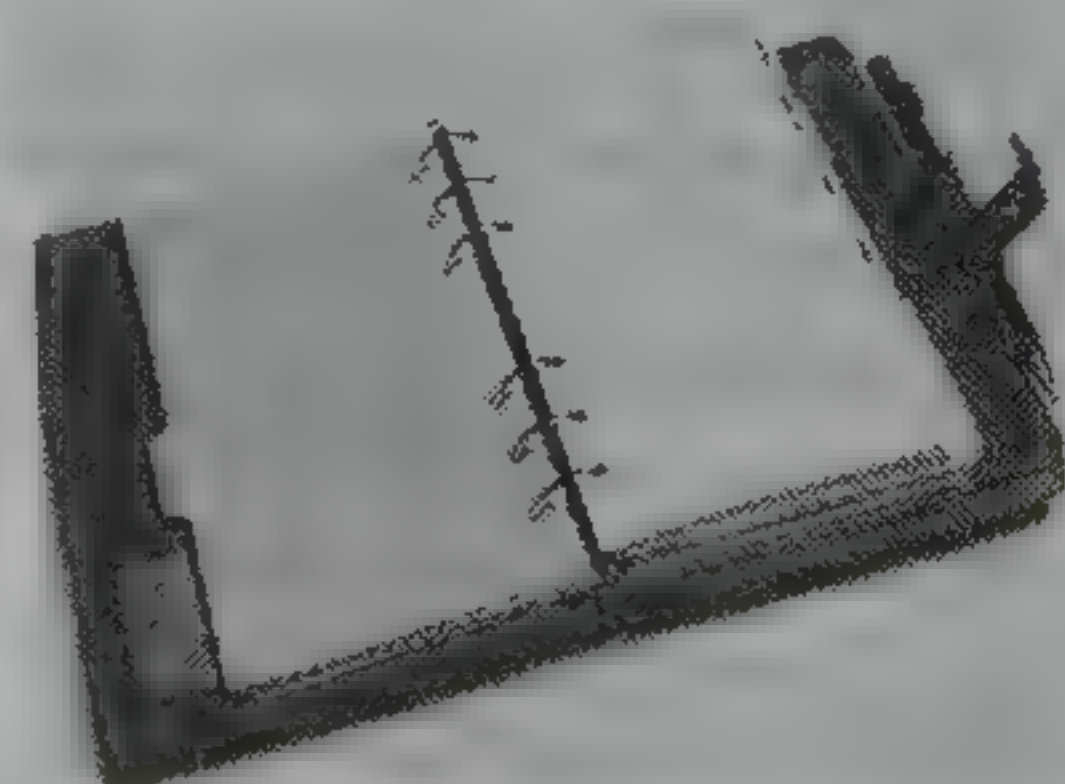
**film star** /'fɪl stɑː/ *esp. BrE* || **movie star** *esp. AmE* — *n* a well-known actor or actress in cinema pictures

**film stock** /'fɪl stɒk/ *n* [U] cinema film that has not yet been used

**film-strip** /'fɪlm strɪp/ *n* a length of photographic film used to **PROJECT** (=show) photographs, drawings, etc., separately one after the other as still pictures: *an educational filmstrip*

**film-y** /'fɪlmi/ *adj* (esp. of cloth) so fine and thin that one can see through it: *filmy mists* | *a filmy silk dress* —**iness** *n* [U]

**Fi-lo-fax** /'faɪləʊfæks/ *n* *tdmk* a small book like a diary with **LOOSE-LEAF** pages for addresses and other information. It



Filofax



is thought of by many people as being used esp. by YUPPIES.

**fil-lo pas-try** /fɪzləʊ 'peɪstri/ *n* [U] a PASTRY made with extremely thin sheets of DOUGH

**fil-ter**<sup>1</sup> /'fɪltə/ *n* 1 an apparatus containing paper, sand, etc., through which a liquid or gas can be passed to make it clean or separate small pieces of solid matter: *the oil filter in a car* | *filter paper* —see picture at ENGINE 2 a (coloured) glass that reduces the quantity or changes the quality of the light admitted into a camera or TELESCOPE

**filter**<sup>2</sup> *v* 1 [T] to clean, change, etc., by passing through a filter: *You need to filter the drinking water.* 2 [I+adv/prep] (of a group) to move gradually: *Around 11 o'clock the crowds start filtering out of the theatres.* | *The students filtered into the exam room.* 3 [I] BrE (of traffic) to turn left or right while traffic going straight ahead must wait until a red light changes to green

**filter** sthg. ↔ **out** *phr v* [T] to remove by means of a filter: *Filter out the sediment/the blue light.*

**filter through** (sthg.) *phr v* [I (to);T] to pass through gradually or in a reduced form: *The news slowly filtered through to (=became known to) everyone in the office.* | *The sunlight filtered through the curtains.*

**filter cof-fee** /'fɪlə 'kɒfi/ *n* [C; U] (a cup of) a hot drink made by filtering water through coffee beans which have been ground (GRIND). It is thought by some people to have a better taste than INSTANT coffee: *We only ever drink filter coffee.*

**filter tip** /'fɪlə 'tiːp/ *n* (a cigarette with) a special end that filters the smoke before it enters the smoker's mouth —**filter-tipped** /'fɪlə 'tiːpt/ *adj*

**filth** /fɪlθ/ *n* [U] 1 very unpleasant dirt or waste matter: *Go and wash that filth off your hands.* 2 something very rude, immoral, or unpleasant: *I don't know how you can read such filth.*

**filth-y** /'fɪlθi/ *adj* 1 extremely dirty: covered with filth: *Take your filthy boots off before you come in.* 2 showing or containing something very rude or immoral: *She's always telling filthy jokes.* | *The film is disgusting — it's absolutely filthy!* —**ily** *adv* —**iness** *n* [U]

**filthy lu-cre** /'fɪlθi 'luːkrə/ *n* [U] *pomp or humor* money

**fil-tra-tion** /fɪl'treɪʃən/ *n* [U] the process of passing through a filter

**fin** /fɪn/ *n* 1 any of the winglike parts that a fish uses in swimming: *a tail fin* 2 a part shaped like this on a car, aircraft, bomb, etc. —see picture at AIRCRAFT 3 AmE *for FLIPPER* (2) 4 AmE *old fash sl* a five-dollar bill

**Fi-na** /'fiːnə/ an oil company that operates petrol stations in Britain and other countries

**fi-na-gle** /fɪ'neɪɡəl/ *v* AmE *infml* 1 [T (out of)] to cheat or trick (a person), usu. by talking them into something: *He finagled me out of ten bucks.* 2 [T] to obtain, sometimes by cheating: *How he finagled four front row seats to the game I'll never know.* —**gler** *n*: an accomplished finagler

**fi-nal**<sup>1</sup> /'faɪnəl/ *adj* 1 [A no comp.] last; coming at the end: *the final episode of the serial* | *The game is now in its final stages.* | *a final demand for payment of a bill* 2 (of a decision, offer, etc.) that cannot be changed: *I won't go, and that's final!* | *Is that your final offer?* 3 completely settled: *I'd love to marry you but my divorce won't be final until March.* —see also FINALLY

**final**<sup>2</sup> also **finals** *pl.* — *n* 1 the last and most important in a set of matches: *I never expected to get through to the finals.* | *the World Cup Final* —see also SEMIFINAL 2 esp. BrE the last and most important examinations in a college course: *When do you take your finals?* 3 AmE the last and most important examination in a high school, college, or university class: *How did your finals go?* | *My final for Chem 1A is at 10 o'clock.* | *a biology final*

**fi-na-le** /fɪ'naːli||fɪ'næli/ *n* the last division of a piece of music or a musical show: (fig.) *That wonderful party made a fitting finale to their visit.*

**fi-nal-ist** /'faɪnəl-ɪst/ *n* one of the people or teams that reaches the FINAL<sup>2</sup> (1), after the others have been defeated

**fi-nal-i-ty** /faɪ'nælɪti/ *n* [U] the quality of being or seeming FINAL<sup>1</sup> (2): *"No!" he said with finality.*

**fi-nal-ize** also **-ise** BrE /'faɪnəl-aɪz/ *v* [T] to bring (a plan, arrangement, etc.) into a finished and complete form: *The agreement between the two countries has now been*

*finalized.* —**ization** /,faɪnəl-aɪ'zeɪʃən||-nəle-/ *n* [U]

**fi-nal-ly** /'faɪnəl-i/ *adv* 1 at last: *After several delays, the plane finally left at six o'clock.* 2 as the last of a number of things; lastly: *And finally, I'd just like to say this.* 3 so as not to allow further change: *It's not finally settled yet.* —see LASTLY (USAGE)

**Final So-lu-tion** /,fɪnəl 'sɒljən/ [the] Adolf Hitler's plan to get rid of the Jewish people in Europe by killing them during the Second World War

**fi-nance**<sup>1</sup> /'faɪnəns, fɪ'neɪns||fɪ'neɪns, 'faɪnəns/ *n* [U] 1 the management of money, esp. of large amounts of money by governments, companies, or large organizations: *the Minister of Finance* | *the university's finance committee* 2 money, esp. provided by a bank or similar organization, to help run a business or buy something: *Unless we can get more finance, we'll have to close the hotel.* —see also FINANCES

**fi-nance**<sup>2</sup> /faɪ'neɪns, fɪ'neɪns||'faɪnəns, fɪ'neɪns/ *v* [T] *rather fml* to provide an esp. large amount of money for (a public activity or organization, business, etc.): *The repairs to the school will be financed by the education department.* | *The concert was financed by the Arts Council.*

**finance com-pa-ny** /'faɪnəns 'kʌmpəni/ *n* AmE a company whose business is lending money to people at very high rates of interest. They are often used by people who are refused loans by banks.

**finance di-rect-or** /'faɪnəns 'dɪrɪktər/ *n* esp. BrE a person with a high position in a company whose job is to plan how money is to be earned and spent

**finance house** /'faɪnəns 'haʊs/ *n* a company which can offer CREDIT, e.g. in the form of HIRE PURCHASE, to people or organizations

**fi-nanc-es** /'faɪnənsɪz, fɪ'neɪnsɪz||fɪ'neɪnsɪz, 'faɪnənsɪz/ *n* [P] the amount of money owned by a person, government, or business: *I'm afraid my finances won't run to (=be enough for) a holiday abroad this year.*

**fi-nan-cial** /fɪ'neɪnʃəl, faɪ-/ *adj* 1 connected with finance: *The City of London is a great financial centre.* | *Mr Briggs is our financial adviser.* | *The film was popular with the critics, but was not a financial success.* (=was not profitable) 2 **financial aid** AmE money given or lent to students at college or university: *a financial aid package* —**ly** *adv*: *The company is not financially sound.*

**financial in-cen-tive** /,faɪnənsɪəl 'ɪnsɪtɪv/ *n* a sum of money offered to someone to persuade them to take some action

**financial in-sti-tu-tion** /,faɪnənsɪəl 'ɪnstɪtjuːʃən/ *n* an organization involved with the borrowing and lending of money, such as a bank, building society etc: *All the big financial institutions are cutting their interest rates.*

**financial mar-kets** /,faɪnənsɪəl 'mɑːkɪts/ *n* [P] the areas of international finance, in which large TRANSACTIONS are made by financial institutions —see also MONEY MARKET

**financial sweet-ener** /,faɪnənsɪəl 'swiːtənər/ *n* also **sweetener** — *n* an amount of money offered, sometimes dishonestly, to persuade someone to make a business arrangement, e.g. to buy a company; BRIBE

**Financial Times** /,faɪnənsɪəl 'taɪmz/ also **FT** — [the] a serious British daily newspaper which contains a lot of business and financial news. It is printed on pink paper. —see also extra information on page 896

**Financial Times In-dex** /,faɪnənsɪəl 'taɪmz 'ɪndeks/ also **FT Index** — [the] a list of prices on the London STOCK EXCHANGE based on the daily average prices of 30 industrial SHARES<sup>1</sup> (2). It is thought to be useful in showing how the British STOCK MARKET in general is performing. Its full name is the **Financial Times Industrial Ordinary Share Index** —compare DOW JONES AVERAGE

**financial year** /,faɪnənsɪəl 'ɪə/ *n* the yearly period over which accounts are calculated, usu. from 6th April to 5th April in Britain: *Self-employed people pay their taxes at the end of the financial year.* —compare FISCAL YEAR

**fi-nan-cier** /fɪ'neɪnsɪər, faɪ'neɪn-||,fɪnən'sɪər/ *n* someone who controls or lends large sums of money

**finch** /fɪntʃ/ *n* any of many kinds of small singing birds with strong beaks that eat seeds

**find**<sup>1</sup> /faɪnd/ *v* **found** /faʊnd/ [T] 1 to discover, esp. by searching; get (someone or something that was hidden, lost, or not known): *I can't find my boots!* | *We've found oil under the North Sea.* | *Where were the jewels found?* |



We looked everywhere for the keys, but they were **nowhere to be found**. (=we could not find them anywhere) | They still have not found a replacement for the designer who left last month. | They found somewhere for him to live. [+obj(i)+obj(d)] They found him somewhere to live. [+obj+v-ing] They found the lost child hiding in the cave. [+obj+adj] He was found dead in the morning. (=he was found by someone and he was already dead) No one has yet found a solution to this difficult problem. | Do you think you can find your way home? **2** to discover (someone or something) to be, by chance or experience: [+obj+adv/prep] When we arrived, we found him (=he was) in bed. | I woke up to find myself (=that I was) in the hospital. | "I think she's mean." "I didn't find her so." [+obj+adj] I find it difficult to believe you. [+obj+n] I didn't find her an easy woman to work with. (=in my experience it was not easy to work with her) [+ (that)] I find I have half an hour to spare, so we can have our talk now. | We're finding that fewer and fewer people are buying this brand. **3** (of a thing) to reach; arrive at: The bullet found its mark. | The water will soon find its own level. **4** to obtain by effort: How ever do you find the time to make cakes? | He's going to Mexico, and I'm going too if I can find the money. | At last she found the courage to tell him. | Once he'd found his tongue (=gained the courage to speak) he told them what he thought of them. **5** [not in progressive forms] to know or see that (something) exists or happens: [+obj+adv/prep] This type of snake is only found (=lives, exists) in South America. [+obj+v-ing] You won't find many students learning (=not many students learn) Latin now. **6** [+obj+adj; not in progressive forms] law to decide (someone) to be: The jury found the prisoner guilty/not guilty. —compare **FIND** **against**, **FIND** **for** **7** BrE to provide: Do the men find their own tools, or is their employer responsible? | The cook gets paid £80 a week and all found. (=and also has food, housing, etc., provided) **8** finders keepers, losers weepers saying the person who finds something may keep it, the person who has lost it can do nothing **9** find it in one's heart/in oneself to (usu. in questions or negatives) to be ready or willing: Can't you find it in your heart to forgive her? **10** find oneself to discover one's own wishes, ability, and character: Her year of voluntary work abroad helped her to find herself as an individual. **11** find one's feet to become used to new or strange surroundings; settle in: He's only been at the school two weeks, and he hasn't really found his feet yet. — ~er n: The finder of the lost articles will receive a reward.

**find against** sbdy. *phr v* [T no pass.] law to give judgment against: The jury found against the plaintiff.

**find for** sbdy. *phr v* [T no pass.] law to give judgment in favour of: The judge found for the plaintiff.

**find out** *phr v* **1** [I; T (=find sthg. ↔ out)] to learn or discover (a fact that was hidden or not known): I won't tell you — you'll have to find out for yourself! | I've been trying to find out her telephone number. [+ (that)] I found out quite by chance that she intended to sell it. [+wh-] Nobody could find out how to operate it. **2** [T] (find sbdy. out) to discover in a dishonest act: After years of embezzling from his employers, he was finally found out.

**find<sup>2</sup>** n something good or valuable that is found: This little restaurant is quite a find/is a real find.

**fin de siècle** /fæn də 'sjeklə/ *adj* Fr (typical) of the end of the 19th century, esp. when thought of as a time of DECADENT ideas in literature, art, etc.

**find-ing** /'faɪndɪŋ/ also **findings** *pl.* — n **1** law a decision made by a judge or JURY **2** something learnt as the result of an official inquiry: The findings of the committee on child care are due to be published soon.

**Fin-dus** /'fɪndəs/ n *tdmk* a company which makes many different types of frozen (FREEZE (5)) food product

**fine<sup>1</sup>** /faɪn/ *adj* **1** beautiful and of high quality; better than most of its kind: a fine house/musician/wine/view | It's a fine example of its kind. | I've never seen a finer animal. | This painting is really very fine. | He's an expert at getting the children ready for school; he's got it down to a fine art. **2** a very thin: fine hair/thread/silk | a pencil with a fine point | This print's too fine (=small) for me to read. | (fig.) There's often a very fine line between truth and falsehood. **b** in very small grains or bits: fine sugar/dust —opposite **coarse**; see also **FINE PRINT**; see **THIN** (USAGE) **3** (of weather) bright and sunny; not wet: a fine summer morning | It's turned out fine again. | (fig.)

I suppose I might be rich one fine day. (=at some uncertain time in the future) **4** [F no comp.] (of a person or situation) healthy and comfortable: "How's your wife?" "She's fine, thank you." | How's the new job?" "It's fine, thank you." | This apartment's fine for two people, but not more. **5** [A] delicate and difficult to understand or notice: I missed some of the finer points in the argument. | That's a very fine distinction; I would have said a donkey and an ass were the same animal. | Not to put too fine a point on it (=to express it plainly), I think he's mad! **6** (of statements) too grand and perhaps not true: We've had enough of your fine speeches! | That's all very fine, but what about me and the children? **7** [A] *infml* terrible: That's a fine thing to say! | Your shoes will be in a fine state if you walk in the mud. —see also **FINELY** — ~ness n [U]

**fine<sup>2</sup>** *adv* **1** so as to be very thin or in very small bits: Cut up the vegetables very fine. | The cloth was woven of fine-spun silk. **2** *infml* very well: It suits me fine. | The machine works fine if you oil it. | "I'll leave the key on the table, OK?" "Fine." (=yes, that is all right) **3** cut/run it fine *infml* to allow only just enough time and no more: You're cutting it a bit fine if you want to catch the 5.30 train! —compare **FINELY**

**fine<sup>3</sup>** *v* [I; T (DOWN)] **1** to make or become pure and clear: Before the beer can be bottled it has to be fined. **2** to improve by making or becoming thinner, less wasteful, or more exact: Now that the original plans have been fined down, they are much more practical.

**fine<sup>4</sup>** n an amount of money paid as a punishment. Fines are usu. given to people for committing (COMMIT) small crimes, e.g. for parking in the wrong place, for driving too fast, or for dropping LITTER: You'll have to pay a £50 fine/an on-the-spot fine. (=a fine paid at once)

**fine<sup>5</sup>** *v* [T (for)] to take money from as a punishment: They fined him heavily (for breaking the speed limit). [+obj(i)+obj(d)] He was fined £200.

**fine art** /fɪˌɑːt/ n [U] paintings, drawings, music, SCULPTURE, etc., of high quality: a lover of fine art

**fine arts** /fɪˌɑːts/ n [the] activities such as painting, music, and SCULPTURE, that are chiefly concerned with producing beautiful rather than useful things: a student of the fine arts

**Fin-e Gael** /fɪnəˈgeɪl/ an Irish political party thought to be CONSERVATIVE and interested in reaching an agreement with the UK. Under leader Garrett Fitzgerald they joined in the Anglo-Irish agreement of 1985.

**fine-ly** /'faɪnli/ *adv* **1** so as to be very thin or in very small bits: finely cut vegetables **2** closely and delicately: These instruments are very finely set/tuned. **3** *fml* very well, esp. in a moral sense: I think he behaved finely. —compare **FINE<sup>2</sup>**

**fine print** /fɪˌnɪt/ n [(the) U] SMALL PRINT

**fi-ne-ry** /'faɪnəri/ n [U] beautiful or showy clothes, jewellery, etc., esp. for a special occasion: the guests in their wedding finery

**fin-es herbes** /fɪzn 'eəb||-'eərb/ n [U] Fr a mixture of dried and cut plants such as PARSLEY, CHIVES, and TARRAGON, which is added to food during cooking to improve its taste

**fi-nesse** /fɪˈnes/ n [U] **1** delicate skill and self-confidence: Paul played the sonata/handled the meeting with great finesse. **2** (in card games) the holding back of one's highest card because one guesses that one will be able to win with a lower card

**fine-tooth comb** /fɪˌtəʊθ ˌkɒmb/ also **fine-toothed comb** /fɪˌtəʊθd ˌkɒmb/ *AmE* — n with a fine-tooth comb very carefully and in great detail: They went through his statement with a fine-tooth comb, to see if they could find any inconsistencies.

**fine-tune** /fɪˌtʃuːn/ *v* [T] to make slight changes to (something) so as to make it work as well as possible —**fine-tuning** n [U]

**Fin-gal's Cave** /fɪŋgəlz 'keɪv/ a cave on Staffa Island in the INNER HEBRIDES in W Scotland famous for its PILLARS of rock

**fin-ger<sup>1</sup>** /'fɪŋgə/ n **1** any of the five movable parts with joints at the end of each hand: He ran his fingers through his hair/drummed his fingers on the desk in frustration. | She let the sand fall through (=between) her fingers.



—compare TOE and see picture at HAND **2** any of four such parts, not including the thumb: *a beckoning finger* —see also INDEX FINGER, LITTLE FINGER, MIDDLE FINGER, RING FINGER **3** the part of a GLOVE that covers a finger **4** **be/feel all fingers and thumbs** *BrE infml* to use one's hands awkwardly or be unable to control them; be CLUMSY: *I'm sorry I dropped your cup — I'm all fingers and thumbs today.* **5** **give someone the finger** *AmE infml* to move the middle finger upwards in the direction of someone with whom one is angry, in an extremely offensive way **6** **(have) a finger in every pie** *infml* (to have) a part or interest in everything that is going on **7** **have/with one's fingers in the till** *infml* to steal/stealing money from the place where one works: *He was caught with his fingers in the till and dismissed.* **8** **keep one's 'fingers crossed** *infml* to hope: *We must just keep our fingers crossed that the weather will stay fine for our picnic tomorrow.* **9** **lay a finger on** (*usu. in negatives*) to harm; touch, even slightly: *It's not my fault — I never laid a finger on her!* **10** **lift/raise a finger** (*usu. in negatives*) to make any effort to help when necessary: *He was the only one who lifted a finger to help the victims.* **11** **pull/take/get one's finger out** *BrE infml* to start working hard; make an effort **12** **put one's finger on** *infml* to find or show exactly (the cause of trouble): *Something's wrong with this room, but I can't quite put my finger on what it is.* **13** **put two fingers up at** *BrE infml* to move the first two fingers of the hand upwards in the direction of someone with whom one is angry, in an extremely offensive way **14** **-fingered** /fɪŋgəd/ -ərd/ **a** having the stated number or kind of fingers: *three-fingered long-fingered* **b** using the stated number of fingers: *two-fingered typing* —see also BUTTERFINGERS, GREEN FINGERS, **burn one's fingers** (BURN<sup>1</sup>), **point the finger** (POINT<sup>2</sup>), **twist someone round one's little finger** (TWIST<sup>1</sup>)

**finger**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T] **1** to feel or handle with one's fingers: *She fingered the rich silk enviously.* **2** [+obj+adv/prep] to perform (a piece of music) with the correct or stated fingers: *How do you finger this piece?* **3** [(to)] *infml, esp. AmE* to point out, esp. as being a criminal: *He fingered the other members of the gang to the police.*

**fin-ger-board** /'fɪŋgəbɔ:d/ -gəbɔ:rd/ *n* the part of a stringed musical instrument against which the fingers press the strings in order to vary the note

**finger bowl** /'fɪŋgəbɔ:l/ *n* a small basin in which someone can wash their fingers before and after a meal. In Britain and the US, finger bowls are only used on formal occasions when people are eating food which is eaten with the fingers.

**fin-ger-ing** /'fɪŋgərɪŋ/ *n* [U] the use or position of the fingers when playing a musical instrument: *The finger-ing is difficult in this piece.*

**fin-ger-lick-in' good** /,fɪŋgəlɪkɪn 'ɡʊd/ -gər-/ *adj* a phrase used in advertisements for Kentucky Fried Chicken

**fin-ger-mark** /'fɪŋgəmə:k/ -gəmə:rk/ *n* a mark made by dirty or sticky fingers on something clean: *Who's put greasy fingermarks all over my clean table?*

**fin-ger-nail** /'fɪŋgənɛɪl/ -ər-/ *n* the hard flat piece that covers the top of the end of a finger: *long/painted fingernails* | *She bit her fingernails nervously.*

**finger-paint** /'fɪŋgəpeɪnt/ *v* [I;T] to paint on paper using the fingers, usu. done by children: *Children love to finger-paint.* — *~ ing n* [C;U]: *Finger-painting and drawing with crayons are often a child's first introduction to art.* | *a child's finger-painting*

**fin-ger-plate** /'fɪŋgəpleɪt/ -ər-/ *n* a metal or glass plate that is fastened to a door near the handle or keyhole, to keep off dirty fingermarks

**fin-ger-print**<sup>1</sup> /'fɪŋgə,prɪnt/ -ər-/ *n* **1** (a mark made by) the pattern of lines on the bottom of the end of a finger, as used in the discovery of crime: *Her fingerprints on the handle proved she'd been there.* | *The police took his fingerprints by pressing his fingertips onto an inked pad.* **2** a mark or pattern that makes each one different or recognizable: *The graph of a patient with heart disease has its own particular fingerprint.* —see picture at PRINT

**fingerprint**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T] to take (someone's) fingerprints

**fin-ger-stall** /'fɪŋgəstɔ:l/ -ər-/ also *stall BrE* || **splint** *AmE* — *n* a cover for a hurt finger

**fin-ger-tip**<sup>1</sup> /'fɪŋgə,tɪp/ -ər-/ *n* **1** the end of a finger **2** **have something at one's fingertips** to have a complete and

ready knowledge of something: *You'd better ask David — he's got the whole subject at his fingertips.* **3** **to the/one's fingertips** *esp. BrE* completely; in all ways: *He's British to his fingertips.*

**fingertip**<sup>2</sup> *adj* [A no comp.] near and easy to reach: *fingertip information/controls*

**fin-i-cky** /'fɪnɪki/ *adj infml* **1** too concerned about unimportant details, small likes and dislikes, etc.: *FUSSY: Eat up your spaghetti and don't be so finicky!* **2** needing delicate attention to detail: *It's a very finicky job to get all these little bones out of the fish.*

**fin-ish**<sup>1</sup> /'fɪnɪʃ/ *v* **1** [I;T] to come or bring to an end; reach the end of (an action or activity): *What time does the concert finish?* | *When do you finish your college course?* | *He interrupted her before she had finished what she was saying.* | *The building is still only half-finished.* [+v-ing] *Could I borrow that book when you've finished reading it?* **2** [T] **a** [(OFF)] to put the last details to (something that one has made): *I must finish (off) this dress I'm making. I'm just giving it the last finishing touches.* **b** to provide with a final polish or coat of paint, etc.: *Wood which has not been finished is still rough.* **3** [T (UP, OFF)] to eat or drink the rest of: *The cat will finish (up) the fish.* | *Let's finish (off) the wine.* **4** [I+adv/prep] to arrive or end (in the stated place or way): *"Where did you finish in the 100 metres?" "I finished first."* (=I won) | *The party finished with a song.* **5** [T (OFF)] *infml* to take all one's strength, hopes of success, patience, etc.: *Climbing all those stairs has really finished me (off).* (=tired me out) —see also FINISHED; see END (USAGE)

**finish** sthg./sbdy. ↔ **off** *phr v* [T] to kill or destroy (a person or animal, esp. one that is hurt or not strong): *That tiger is wounded — shall I finish him off?* —see also FINISH<sup>1</sup> (2,3,5)

**finish up** *phr v* [L] to be in the end (in the stated place, condition, etc.): *We toured Europe and finished up in Paris.* [+v-ing] *Everything went wrong, and I finished up wishing I'd never tried it.* —see also FINISH<sup>1</sup> (3)

**finish with** sthg./sbdy. *phr v* [T] **1** to have no more use for: *I'll borrow the scissors if you've finished with them.* **2** *infml* to (wish to) have no further relationship with (someone): *I've finished with Mary after the way she's treated me.*

**finish**<sup>2</sup> *n* **1** [C] the end or last part, esp. of a race: *That was a close finish!* (=the competitors were almost level) | *The meeting was a fiasco from start to finish.* | *The two men fought to the finish.* (=until one was completely defeated) **2** [S;U] the appearance or condition of having been properly finished, with paint, polish, etc.: *This antique French table has a beautiful finish.* | (fig.) *Her manners lack social finish.*

**fin-ished** /'fɪnɪʃt/ *adj* **1** [A] properly made and complete: *the finished product* | *a very finished* (=of very high quality) *performance* —opposite **unfinished** **2** [F] *infml* at the end of an activity, relationship, etc.: *The workmen were finished by 7.00.* **3** [F] *infml* with no hope of continuing: *If the bank refuses to lend us the money, we're finished!*

**finishing school** /'fɪnɪʃɪŋ skʊl/ *n* **1** a private school where rich young girls learn social skills **2** *AmE derog* a college or university with very low standards, esp. one for women only

**fi-nite** /'faɪnaɪt/ *adj* **1** having an end or limit: *There is only a finite number of possibilities.* | *Light moves at a finite speed.* | *finite resources* —opposite **infinite** **2** *tech* (of a verb form) marked to show a particular tense and subject: *"Am", "was", and "are" are finite forms of the verb "to be", but "being" and "been" are non-finite.* — *~ ly adv*

**fink** /fɪŋk/ *v* [I] *AmE sl* to inform people, esp. the police, about the action of others, esp. criminals: *Who finked?*

**fink** *n* *AmE infml* **1** a worthless or unpleasant person **2** a person who tells the police or a parent when someone else has done something wrong

**Fink, Mike** (about 1770–1823) a popular and admired man in the US who was famous for taking boats up and down the Mississippi River, for being a good shot, and for his drinking and bragging (BRAG)

**Fin-land** /'fɪnlənd/ a country in Scandinavia in N Europe; capital Helsinki; population 4,962,000 (1989)

**Finn** /fɪn/ *n* a person who comes from, or whose parents come from, Finland

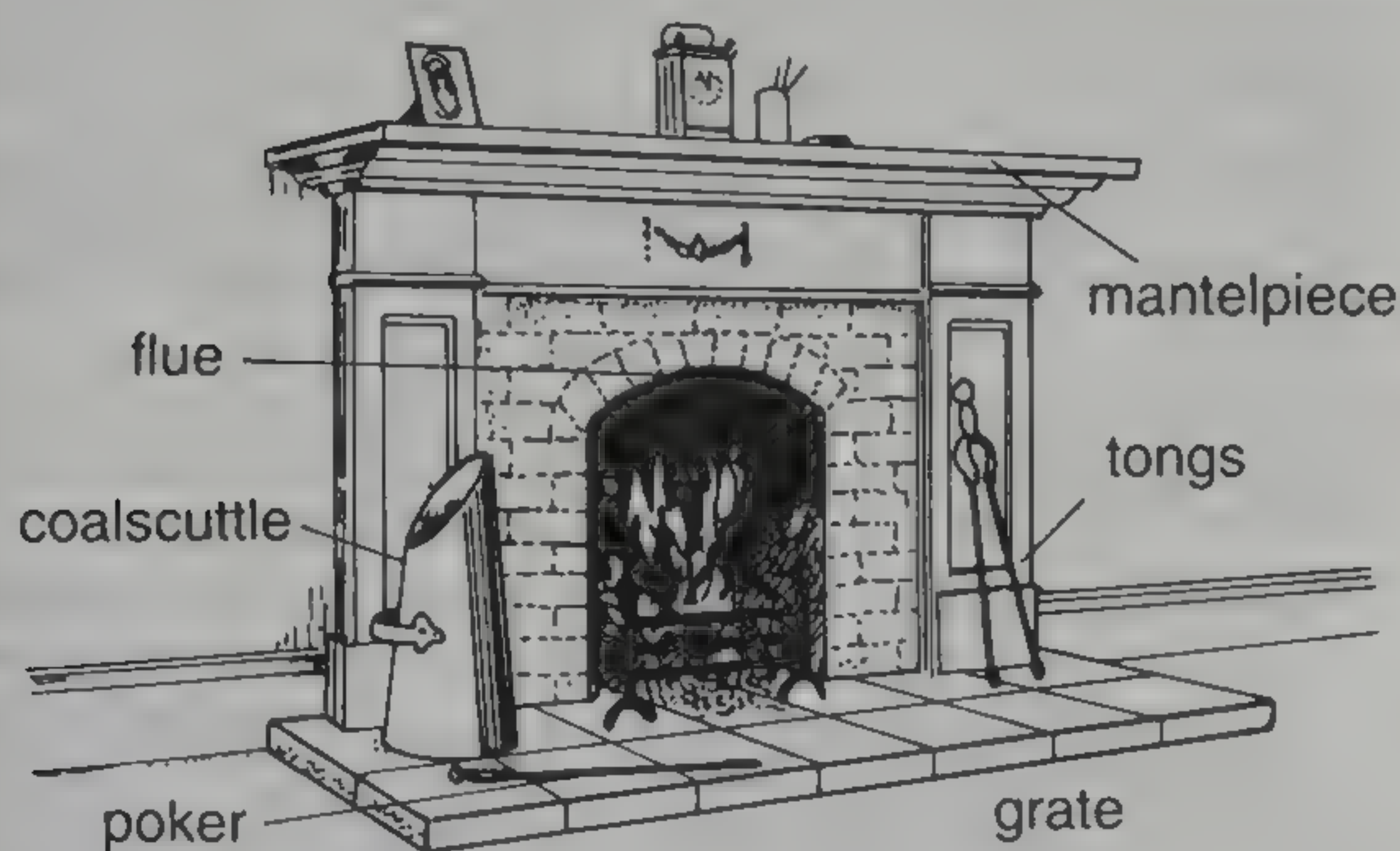


**fire-man** /'faɪəmə'n||-ər/ *n* -**men** /mə'n/ **1** a person whose job is putting out fires —see picture at **HELMET** **2** a person who looks after the fire in a steam engine or **FURNACE**



**Fire of Lon-don** /ˌfɪəˈlɒndən/ also **Great Fire of London**—[the] a very bad fire that destroyed large parts of London in 1666

### fireplace



**fire-place** /ˈfaɪəpleɪs/ -ər/ *n* the opening for a coal or wood fire in the wall of a room, with a chimney above it and usu. a HEARTH and MANTELPIECE around it

**fire-plug** /ˈfɪəˌplʌɡ/ *n* AmE for FIRE HYDRANT

**fire-pow-er** /ˈfaɪəˌpaʊə/ -ər/ *n* [U] tech the ability to deliver gunfire or use other kinds of weapon effectively: *the enemy's superior firepower*

**fire-proof** /ˈfaɪəpruːf/ -ər/ *v* [T] to make (a material, building, etc.) not able to be damaged by heat or flames — **fireproof** *adj*

**fire-raising** /ˈfɪəˌraɪzɪŋ/ *n* [U] BrE the crime of starting fires on purpose; ARSON —er *n*

**fire sale** /ˈfɪəˌseɪl/ *n* a sale of goods that have been slightly damaged by a fire, or of goods that must be sold because, as the result of a fire, there is nowhere to keep them

**fire-screen** /ˈfaɪəskriːn/ -ər/ AmE for FIREGUARD

**Fire Service** /ˈfɪəˌsɜːvɪs/ [the] the organization in Britain which manages the supply of firemen (FIREMAN) and FIRE ENGINES to put out fires

**fire-side** /ˈfaɪəsɑɪd/ -ər/ *n* [usu. sing.] the area around the fireplace, often thought of as representing the comfort and pleasures of home life: *He sat by the fireside drinking his cocoa.*

**fireside chat** /ˈfɪəsaɪdˌtʃæt/ *n* 1 a friendly conversation by a fire-side 2 one of a group of speeches given on American radio by American President Franklin D. Roosevelt, which told people in an informal way what the government was doing. Roosevelt was the first president to tell people in a direct way what he was thinking and doing. All the presidents after him have used either radio or television in the same way though not always so regularly.

**fire station** /ˈfɪəˌsteɪʃən/ *n* a building for firemen (FIREMAN) and their vehicles and equipment

**Fire-stone** /ˈfaɪəstəʊn/ || ˈfaɪər-/ an American company that makes tyres and other rubber products

**fire-storm** /ˈfaɪəstɔːm/ -ərstɔːrm/ *n* a very large fire, usu. started by bombs, that is kept burning by the high winds that are drawn into it

**fire-trap** /ˈfaɪətræp/ -ər/ *n* a building which is dangerous because it may easily catch fire and/or be difficult to escape from in case of fire

**fire truck** /ˈfɪəˌtrʌk/ *n* AmE a FIRE ENGINE

**fire-watch-er** /ˈfaɪəwɒtʃə/ -ərwaɪtʃə, -wɔːtʃ-/ *n* one of the people who kept watch for fire bombs in British cities when they were being bombed by German aircraft during the Second World War. Firewatchers usu. waited on the tops of tall buildings and tried to put out fires as soon as they started.

**fire-wat-er** /ˈfaɪəˌwɔːtə/ -ərˌwɔː-, -ˌwɔː-/ *n* [U] humor strong alcoholic drink, such as WHISKY

**fire-wood** /ˈfaɪəwʊd/ -ər/ *n* [U] wood cut for burning on fires: *chopping firewood in the yard*

**fire-work** /ˈfaɪəwɜːk/ -ərɜːrk/ *n* [usu. pl.] a small container filled with an explosive chemical powder that burns or explodes to produce a show of light, noise, and smoke —see colour picture on page 1211

► **CULTURAL NOTE** In Britain, people usu. have fireworks on GUY FAWKES NIGHT and sometimes also for other special

celebrations. Anyone over the age of 16 is allowed to buy fireworks. In the US, fireworks are used to celebrate the FOURTH OF JULY and also for other special celebrations. In some parts of the US people can buy fireworks for the Fourth of July, but in many places it is illegal to buy fireworks because they are considered to be too dangerous. Many people go to see firework displays in parks or other public places. ◀

**fire-works** /ˈfaɪəwɜːks/ -ərɜːrks/ *n* [P] *infml* a show of anger: *I told you there'd be fireworks if you attempted to contradict her.*

**Fireworks Night** /ˈfɪəˌwɜːksˌnaɪt/ GUY FAWKES NIGHT

**firing line** /ˈfɪərɪŋˌlaɪn/ [the] a position or situation in which one is the object of (often undeserved) attack, blame, etc.: *It's the police who are always in the firing line when there are political demonstrations.*

**firing squad** /ˈfɪərɪŋˌskwɒd/ *n* [C+sing./pl. v] a group of soldiers with the duty of putting a person to death by shooting

**firm**<sup>1</sup> /fɜːm/ fɜːrm/ *adj* 1 solidly fixed in place: *I don't think that chair's firm enough to stand on.* (=it may slip or fall over) 2 not changing or likely to change: *I'm a firm believer in always telling the truth.* | *The pound stayed firm* (=did not change its value) *against the dollar in London but fell a little in New York.* | *Our offer was met with a firm refusal.* 3 strong and giving a feeling of trust: *She has a good firm handshake.* | *He kept a firm hold on my arm as he helped me over the fence.* 4 determined in purpose; RESOLUTE: *Our army stood firm in the face of a terrible onslaught.* | *Always hold firm to your beliefs.* | *You'll have to be firm with class three; they're a noisy lot.* — ~ly *adv*: *I firmly believe that we are justified in taking this course of action.* — ~ness *n* [U]

**firm**<sup>2</sup> *v* [I;T (UP)] to (cause to) become firm: *Stock market prices have firmed.* (=become steady) | *We should be able to firm up the agreement* (=put it into a fixed form) *today.*

**firm**<sup>3</sup> *n* a business company: *She works for an engineering firm/a firm of stockbrokers.*

**fir-ma-ment** /ˈfɜːməmənt/ || ˈfɜːr-/ *n* [the] *lit* or *old* use the sky

**firm of-fer** /ˈfɪəˌɒfə/ *n* a price suggested for a service or for goods which becomes legally fixed if accepted

**firm-ware** /ˈfɜːmweə/ || ˈfɜːrm-/ *n* [U] tech instructions for controlling the operation of a computer, stored on a CHIP<sup>1</sup> (6), such as a ROM —compare HARDWARE, SOFTWARE

**first**<sup>1</sup> /fɜːst/ fɜːrst/ *determiner, adv* 1 before anything else; before the others: *George arrived first/was the first person to arrive.* | *"Let's go."* *"I'll have to find my keys first."* | *First, let me deal with the most important difficulty.* | *It was the first time I had ever been in a plane.* | *We left at first light.* (=very early in the morning) | *First impressions are very important.* 2 for the first time: *Is this your first visit to New York?* | *I remember when I first met him.* 3 at the beginning: *When we first lived here there were no buses.* | *First I want to establish some basic points.* | *The first few days passed very quickly.* | *a first-year student at the university* 4 more willingly: *I'll never allow you to do that: I'll die first!* 5 at first hand directly; FIRST-HAND: *I got the news from her at first hand.* 6 first among equals the person who leads a group of people but is not seen as being better or more important than the other members of the group 7 first and foremost most importantly; above all else: *He's written many different kinds of books, but he's first and foremost a poet.* 8 first of all as the first or most important thing: *First of all let me say how glad I am to be here.* | *I'm interested in old coins but first of all I'm a stamp collector.* 9 first off *infml* before other things: *First off, let's see where we agree and disagree.* 10 first thing at the earliest time in the morning: *I'll come round to collect it first thing tomorrow.* 11 first things first let us take things in the proper order of importance 12 in the first instance esp. BrE as the first act in a set of actions: *Anyone wishing to purchase tickets should apply in the first instance to the secretary.* 13 not the first *infml* not the slightest; no: *I haven't got the first idea how to do it.* 14 of the first water old-fash or pomp of the highest quality: *a scientist of the first water* —see also FIRSTLY 15 on the first day of Christmas the first line of a popular Christmas song:

*On the first day of Christmas my true love sent to me  
A partridge in a pear tree...*

**first**<sup>2</sup> *n, pron* 1 [(the) S] the person, thing, or group before all others: *"Are we the first?" he asked, as their host opened*



the door. | *The minister's television appearance — his first since taking office — was a great success.* [+to-v] *He was the first/one of the first to collect Picasso's paintings.* | *Whoever is (the) first to finish will get a prize.* | *the first of a series of programmes on life in Russia* —compare LAST<sup>2</sup> **2** [C (in)] the highest class of British university degree: *He got a first in history.* —see also DEGREE (CULTURAL NOTE) **3** [C] *infml* something never done before: *Roger Bannister scored a notable first when he ran the mile in under four minutes.* **4** [U] FIRST GEAR **5** at first at the beginning: *At first I didn't like him but now I do.* —compare at last (LAST<sup>2</sup>); see FIRSTLY (USAGE) **6** first come, first served the person who arrives first will be served first: *The number of tickets is limited, so it's a case of first come, first served.* (=people who come late may not get tickets) **7** from the (very) first from the beginning: *I knew from the first it would never succeed.* **8** the first shall be last, and the last shall be first phrase from the Bible the people who have power now will one day have no power, and the people with no power now will one day have power

**first aid** /,fɪːst aɪd/ *n* [U] treatment to be given by an ordinary person (as opposed to a doctor, nurse, etc.) to a person who has been hurt in an accident or suddenly taken ill: *Do you know anything about first aid?* | *I'm going to do a first-aid course.*

**first aid kit** /,fɪːst aɪd kɪt/ also **first aid box**— *n* a collection of equipment such as BANDAGES, PLASTERS etc., which can be used to treat people who have been hurt in an accident or suddenly taken ill

**First A-mend-ment** /,fɪːst əˈmendmənt/ [the] a part of the American CONSTITUTION which gives American citizens the rights of freedom of speech, freedom of the PRESS, freedom of religion, and freedom of ASSEMBLY (=the right to gather together as a group). Many cases concerning the rights included in the First Amendment have been taken to the SUPREME COURT. People in the US usually feel very strongly about the questions that these cases raise.

**first base** /,fɪːst beɪs/ *n* also **first**— *AmE* **1** (in BASEBALL) the first of the four places which a player must touch before gaining a point (RUN): *He plays first base for the Red Sox.* **2** the first stage of success in an attempt to achieve something: *You've gotten to first base if you've landed an interview.*

**first-born** /ˈfɜːstbɔːn/ || ˈfɜːrstbɔːrn/ *adj, n* **firstborn** [A;C] *lit or bibl* (the) eldest among the children in a family: *the firstborn child*

► **CULTURAL NOTE** The firstborn son (=the eldest son) used to be considered the most important child in a family because he was the one who would INHERIT most of the family's land and wealth. This idea is not so strong today but in some noble or royal families it is still the case that the first born son inherits the family's wealth. ◀

**first class** /,fɪːst klɑːs/ *n* **1** [U] a (in Britain) a class of mail in which letters and parcels are delivered as quickly as possible, and which is more expensive than second class mail **b** (in the US) the class of mail used for ordinary business and personal letters **2** [U] (on a train, ship, or aircraft) the best and most expensive travelling conditions: *There's a lot more space in first class.* | *a first-class ticket* —compare BUSINESS CLASS, CLUB CLASS, ECONOMY CLASS, SECOND CLASS **3** [C] *fml* for FIRST<sup>2</sup> (2) —**first class** *adv*: *You'd better send it first class.* | *I always travel first class.*

**first-class** *adj* of the highest or best quality: *Your work is first-class; I'm very pleased with it.*

**First Com-mu-nion** /,fɪːst kəmjuːniən/ *n* (the act of) receiving Holy Communion for the first time: *Rachel's making her First Communion on Saturday.*

**first cousin** /,fɪːst ˈkaʊnzən/ *n* a COUSIN

**first day cover** /,fɪːst deɪ ˈkʌvə/ *n* (in Britain) a special envelope on which newly produced stamps are stuck and marked with a POSTMARK on their first day of use. Some people in Britain like to collect first day covers which sometimes later become very valuable.

**first-de-gree** /,fɪːst deɪˈɡriː/ *adj* [A] **1** (of a burn) of the lowest level of seriousness **2** *AmE* (of a crime) of the highest level of seriousness: *first-degree murder*

**First Di-vi-sion** /,fɪːst dɪˈvɪʒən/ [the] a group of English football teams that compete with each other. The First Division is below the PREMIER LEAGUE. —see also FOOTBALL (1)

**first e-di-tion** /,fɪːst eɪˈdɪʃən/ *n* one of the copies of a book that was

produced the first time that book was printed. Some first editions of old books are now very valuable.

**first-ever** /,fɪːst ˈevə/ *adj* happening for the first time ever; that has never happened before: *The town had its first-ever snowfall last year.* | *my first-ever trip to New York*

**first fam-i-ly** /,fɪːst ˈfæmli/ *n* the family of the president of the US

**first floor** /,fɪːst flɔː/ *n* [the] **1** *BrE* the first floor of a building above ground level **2** *AmE* the floor of a building at ground level —compare GROUND FLOOR; see FLOOR (USAGE)

**first-footing** /,fɪːst ˈfʊtɪŋ/ *n* [U] *ScotE* the custom in Scotland of visiting people soon after the New Year has begun, at 12 o'clock at night on December 31st —**first-footer** *n*

► **CULTURAL NOTE** In Scotland people usu. celebrate HOG-MANAY and the New Year as much as CHRISTMAS. There are usu. parties on Hogmanay followed by celebrations at 12 o'clock when the New Year starts. After 12 o'clock people go first-footing, hoping to find another party or just to wish friends a Happy New Year. It is supposed to be lucky if the first person to enter your house is a tall, dark man carrying a piece of coal. Therefore first-footers should take coal with them, although this is not often done now. ◀

**first gear** /,fɪːst ɡiː/ *n* the lowest GEAR in a car or other motor vehicle, used when the vehicle is started or when going up a very steep hill

**first gen-e-ra-tion** /,fɪːst ˈɡenərəʃən/ *n* [the] the children of parents who have moved to live in a new country, esp. the US. These children grow up speaking the language of their new country at school and the language of their parents at home. —**first-generation** *adj*: *first-generation children*

**first half** /,fɪːst haːf/ *n* the first of two equal periods into which a sports match is divided: *That was a tough first half for Wales.*

**first-hand** /ˈfɜːstˈhænd/ || -ˈɜːr-/ *adj, adv* (learnt) directly from the point of origin: *I heard her news firsthand.* (=from her) | *It's not firsthand information, so I don't know if you can completely believe it.* —compare SECOND-HAND<sup>1</sup> (2); see also at first hand (FIRST<sup>1</sup>)

**first la-dy** /,fɪːst ˈlædi/ *n* (sometimes *cap.*) (in the US) the wife of the President, or of the GOVERNOR of a state

**first lan-guage** /,fɪːst ˈlæŋɡwɪdʒ/ *n* the language that one knows best and speaks most naturally, usu. the language first learnt as a child: *His first language is Spanish, but he also speaks French and Italian.*

**first lieu-ten-ant** /,fɪːst ˈliːtənənt/ *n* an officer in the US army, air-force, or MARINES —see TABLE 3

**first-ly** /ˈfɜːstli/ || -ˈɜːr-/ *adv* as the first of a set of things; FIRST<sup>1</sup>: *Firstly, let me deal with the most urgent problem.*

► **USAGE** Compare first(ly) and at first. Firstly (and first<sup>2</sup>) are often used when separating the points you want to make and putting them in order: *First(ly) I'll mention the advantages, then I'll mention the disadvantages.* | *There are three reasons why I hate him: first(ly) he's a cheat, second(ly) he's a liar, and third(ly) finally he owes me money.* At first cannot be used in this way. At first refers to a point of time and often marks a contrast with a later time: *At first I didn't understand, but afterwards it became very clear.* | *You'll find it difficult at first, but it'll soon get easier.* ◀

**first name** /ˈfɜːst neɪm/ also **forename** *fml* || **given name** *AmE*— *n* the name or names that stand before one's SURNAME (=family name); one's personal name(s): *Mr Smith's first name is Peter.* | *His first names are Peter Alexander.* | *She's on first-name terms with her teachers.* (=knows them well enough to call them by their first names) | *He's on a first name basis (AmE) with his boss.*

► **USAGE** In English-speaking countries, your first name usually means the first of the names given to you by your parents at birth, but it may also include all the names given to you by your parents. In Christian countries, Christian name is sometimes used in the same way. Given name(s) and (less commonly) fore-name(s) are also used in this way, especially on official forms. Given name or given names is the most suitable expression for people, such as Chinese, who usually say their SURNAMES first. ◀

**first night** /,fɪːst naɪt/ *n* the evening on which the first public performance of a show, play, etc., is given



**first-of-fend-er** /ˌfɪr.ə.ˈfend.ər/ *n* a person found guilty of breaking the law for the first time

**first past the post** /ˌfɪr.ə.ˈpɑːst ðə pɒst/ *n* [U] a voting system used in British national and local elections, in which the person with more votes than any other wins the election. The winner does not need to have more votes than the losers have together. —compare PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION

**first person** /ˌfɪr.ə.ˈpɜːn/ *n* [the+S] 1 *tech* a form of verb or PRONOUN that is used to show the speaker: “I”, “me”, “we”, and “us” are first person pronouns. | “I am” is the first person present singular of “to be”. 2 a way of telling a story in which the teller uses the first person: *The story was written in the first person: it began “I was born in. . .”*. —compare SECOND PERSON, THIRD PERSON

**first-rate** /ˌfɪr.ə.ˈreɪt/ *adj* very good; of the highest quality: *This is first-rate beer!* —compare SECOND-RATE

**First Reading** /ˌfɜːst ˈriːdɪŋ/ *n* 1 the first reading out of a suggested new law in parliament: *The new transport bill will get its first reading in the House of Commons tomorrow.* 2 (in the US) the introduction of a suggested new law into Congress —see BILL<sup>1</sup> (2) (CULTURAL NOTE)

**first re-fus-al** /ˌfɪr.ə.ˈruːz.əl/ *n* [(the) U] *BrE* the right to decide whether to buy something before it is offered to other people: *If you sell your house, will you let me have first refusal on it?*

**first school** /ˌfɪr.ə.ˈskʊl/ *n* (in Britain) a school for children between the ages of five and eight

**first strike** /ˌfɪr.ə.ˈstraɪk/ *n* an attack made on your enemy before they (can) attack you: *a new weapon system that gives us a first-strike capability*

**first-string** /ˌfɪr.ə.ˈstrɪŋ/ *adj* [A] being a regular member of a team, group, etc., rather than one who sometimes comes in to take the place of another —compare SECOND-STRING

**first-time buy-er** /ˌfɪr.ə.ˈtaɪm baɪ.ər/ *n* someone who is buying a flat or house for the first time. In Britain, first-time buyers are often offered favourable financial deals by banks and building societies (BUILDING SOCIETY).

**First World** /ˌfɪr.ə.ˈwɜːld/ *n* [the+sing./pl.v] the highly industrial countries of the world —**first world** *adj* [A]: *first world economies*

**First World War** /ˌfɪr.ə.ˈwɜːld wɔːr/ *BrE* || *usu. World War I AmE*—[the] (1914–18) a war fought in Europe between France, Britain, Russia, and the US (the ALLIES) on one side and Germany, Austria-Hungary, and Turkey on the other, in which about 10 million people were killed

► **CULTURAL NOTE** Although the Allies won the First World War, British people do not usu. talk of the war or the victory with pride, because of the very large numbers of men, esp. young men, who were killed. People remember the names of the main battles of the war, esp. Passchendaele and the Somme, and these names have come to represent the sadness and wastefulness of war. ◀

**firth** /fɜːθ/ || fɜːrθ/ *n* (often cap. as part of a name) (esp. in Scotland) a narrow arm of the sea, or place where a river flows out: *the Firth of Tay*

**fir-tree** /ˈfɜːtriː/ || ˈfɜːr-/ *n* a FIR

**fis-cal** /ˈfɪskəl/ *adj* *fml* of or related to public money, taxes, debts, etc.: *the government's fiscal policy* —~ly *adv*

**fiscal**<sup>2</sup> *n infml* for PROCURATOR FISCAL

**fiscal year** /ˌfɪskəl jɪər/ also FY *AmE*—*n* the yearly period over which the amount of tax payable is calculated. In Britain, the fiscal year for companies starts on 1st April and for private persons it starts on 6th April. In the US the government fiscal year starts on October 1st; for INDIVIDUALS it is the same as the CALENDAR YEAR. Businesses may start their own fiscal years. —compare FINANCIAL YEAR

**Fisch-er** /ˈfɪʃər/, Bobby (1943– ) an American CHESS player famous for reaching a professional level of play at the age of 15

**fish**<sup>1</sup> /fɪʃ/ *n* **fish or fishes** 1 [C] an animal which lives in water, is covered in SCALES<sup>2</sup> (1), and uses its FINS and tail to swim: *We caught three little fishes/several fish.* | *to gut/fillet a fish* 2 [U] the flesh of a fish when used as food: *We had fish/some fish/a piece of fish for dinner.* | *What kind of fish is this?* 3 [C] *infml* a person of the stated kind (used esp. in the phrases a cold/odd/queer fish) 4 **have 'other fish to fry** *infml* to have other affairs to attend

to, esp. that are more important 5 **like a fish out of water** uncomfortable because one is in a strange place or situation —also COLD FISH, a pretty kettle of fish (KETTLE) 6 **neither fish nor fowl** neither one thing nor another 7 **there are plenty more fish in the sea** (a phrase used to someone who has just suffered the ending of a relationship) there are plenty of other people to have a relationship with

**fish**<sup>2</sup> *v* 1 [I (for)] to try to catch fish: *Let's go fishing.* | *We're fishing for trout* —compare ANGLE<sup>3</sup> 2 [T] to catch fish in (an area of water): *This river has been fished too much.* 3 [I+ABOUT, AROUND, for] *infml* to search: *She was fishing around in her handbag trying to find the key.* | *From the way he spoke I could tell he didn't know and was just fishing for information.* 4 **fish for compliments** to try to make someone say something admiring about oneself, usu. by asking them a question: *“Did you like the play?” “Stop fishing for compliments. You know you acted brilliantly.”* 5 **fish in troubled waters** to try to gain advantage out of other people's troubles 6 **fish or cut bait** *AmE infml* either do what you are saying you will do, or stop talking about it: *“I'll show these guys how the game is really played.” “Fish or cut bait, buddy.”*

**fish sthg./sbdy.** ↔ **out** *phr v* [T] *infml* 1 to pull from the water: *Jean fell into the river, and we had to fish her out.* 2 to bring out, esp. after searching: *He fished out a coin/a handkerchief from his pocket.*

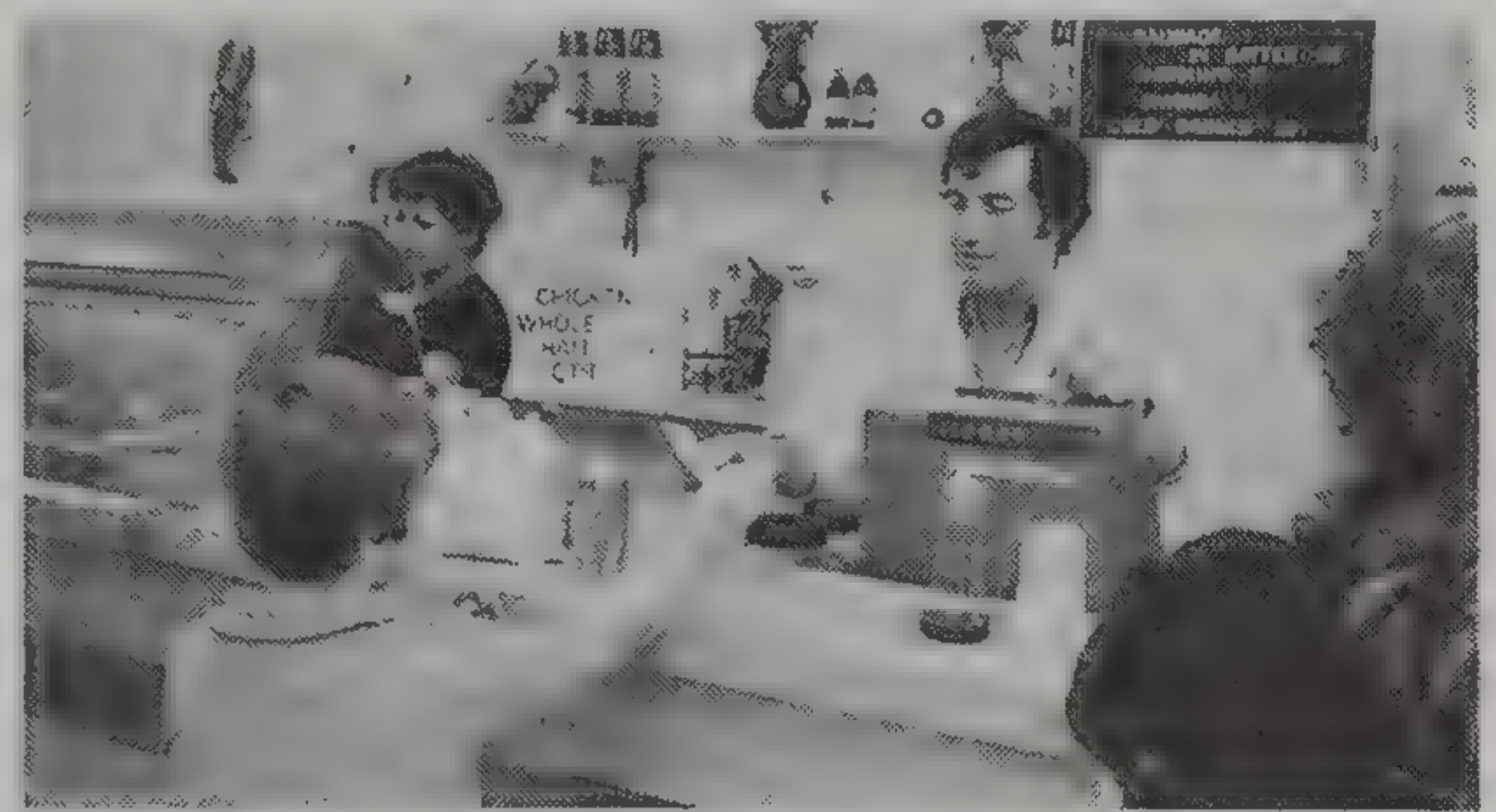
**fish sthg.** ↔ **up** *phr v* [T] to pull up, as if catching a fish: *He fished up an old shoe out of the lake.*

**Fish, Mi-chael** /ˈmaɪkəl/ (1944– ) a weather reporter for BBC radio and television

**fish and chips** /ˌfɪʃ ənd ˈtʃɪps/ *n* [U;P] a meal consisting of fish which is dipped into a mixture of flour and milk (BATTER<sup>2</sup>) and then cooked in oil, served with long, thin pieces of potato cooked in oil (CHIPS)

► **CULTURAL NOTE** Fish and chips is very popular in Britain, and is considered to be a typically British meal. It is usu. bought ready cooked at special shops (fish and chip shops) and taken away wrapped in paper, to be eaten at home or outside. It is quite cheap to buy and is usu. eaten as a quick meal or a SNACK. ◀

#### fish and chip shop



**fish and chip shop** /ˌfɪʃ ənd ˈtʃɪp ʃɒp/ *n* a shop where fish and chips and some other foods are cooked and sold

**fish-cake** /ˈfɪʃkeɪk/ *n* a small round flat cake made of cooked fish mixed with cooked potato

**fish-er** /ˈfɪʃər/ *n* **I will make you fishers of men** a phrase used in the Bible by Christ, telling his followers, who were fishermen, that they should stop trying to catch fish and instead should try to attract more people to follow him

**fish-er-man** /ˈfɪʃəmən/ || -fər-/ *n* -men /mən/ a man who catches fish, for sport or as a job —compare ANGLER

**Fisherman's Friend** /ˌfɪʃə.mən.s frɪend/ *n* *tdmk* a strong-tasting sweet which one sucks to help a cough get better

**fish-e-ry** /ˈfɪʃəri/ *n* a part of the sea used for the business of catching sea fish: *coastal fisheries*

**fish-eye lens** /ˌfɪʃaɪ leɪns/ *n* a type of very curved LENS for a camera that allows one to take pictures that cover a very wide angle

**fish farm** /ˌfɪʃ fɑːm/ *n* an area of water used for breeding fish for eating —~ing *n* [U]

**fish fin-ger** /ˌfɪʃ fɪŋ.ɡər/ *esp. BrE* || **fish stick** *esp. AmE*—*n* a small finger-shaped piece of fish covered with BREADCRUMBS, esp. popular with small children



**fish-ing** /'fɪʃɪŋ/ *n* [U] (the sport or job of) catching fish: *We're going to do some fishing in the holidays.* | *The sign says "No fishing".* (=you are not allowed to catch fish here) | *a fishing rod/net*

**fishing ex-pe-di-tion** /'fɪʃɪŋ ɪk-s-pɛ-dɪ-tʃən/ *n* AmE an inquiry that tries to find secret information: *reporters on a fishing expedition at the mayor's residence*

**fishing tack-le** /'fɪʃɪŋ ˈtæk-əl/ *n* [U] all the things, e.g. fishing rod and net, needed for catching fish in a river or lake

**fish ket-tle** /'fɪʃ ˈket-əl/ *n* a long, deep dish used for cooking whole fish

**fish knife** /'fɪʃ ˈnaɪf/ *n* a kind of table knife without a sharp edge, used for eating fish —see picture at PLACE SETTINGS

**fish mar-ket** /'fɪʃ ˈmɑːkɪt/ *n* a market where fish is sold

**fish meal** /'fɪʃ ˈmiːl/ *n* [U] dried fish crushed into a powder and put onto the land to help food plants grow

**fish-mon-ger** /'fɪʃmɑŋgə/ *n* esp. BrE a person who owns or works in a shop (fishmonger's) which sells fish: *I bought a nice piece of cod from the fishmonger/at the fishmonger's.*

**fish 'n' chips** /'fɪʃ ən ˈtʃɪps/ *n* [P] infml FISH AND CHIPS; used esp. on signs and advertisements

**fish-net stock-ings** /'fɪʃnet ˈstɒkɪŋz/ *n* [P] STOCKINGS made of material with lots of small holes in it. Fishnet stockings are thought to make a woman look sexy and drawings of PROSTITUTES often show them wearing fishnet stockings.

**fish slice** /'fɪʃ ˈsliːs/ *n* BrE || slotted spatula AmE— *n* a kitchen tool with a wide flat blade and a long handle, used esp. for lifting and turning food when cooking —see picture at KITCHEN

**fish stick** /'fɪʃ ˈstɪk/ *n* AmE for FISH FINGER

**fish-tail** /'fɪʃteɪl/ *v* [I] (of a car, or other motor vehicle, or plane) to slide from side to side: *The driver panicked as the car fishtailed on the icy road.*

**fish-wife** /'fɪʃwaɪf/ *n* -wives /waɪvz/ derog a woman who shouts in a loud, angry, rude way: *Stop shrieking like an old fishwife and listen to me!*

**fish-y** /'fɪʃi/ *adj* 1 (tasting or smelling) of fish 2 infml seeming false; making one doubtful; SUSPICIOUS: *His story sounds/smells very fishy to me.*

**fis-sile** /'fɪsaɪl/ *adj* tech 1 able to split by atomic fission 2 tending to split along natural lines of weakness: *fissile wood*

**fis-sion** /'fɪʃən/ *n* [U] tech 1 the splitting into parts of certain atoms to free their powerful forces —compare FUSION 2 the act of splitting or dividing, esp. of one living cell into two or more

**fis-sure** /'fɪʃə/ *n* a deep crack, esp. in rock or earth

**fist** /fɪst/ *n* 1 (the shape of) the hand with the fingers closed in tightly: *She shook her fist angrily.* | *I clenched my fists (=closed my hands very tightly) to try and stop the pain.* 2 make a good/bad etc. fist of BrE infml rare to make a successful/unsuccessful attempt at —see also HAM-FISTED, TIGHTFISTED, hand over fist (HAND<sup>1</sup> (23))

**fist-ful** /'fɪstfʊl/ *n* [(of)] an amount which is as much as can easily be held in a fist

**Fistful of Dol-lars** /'fɪstfʊl ɒf ˈdɒləz/ *n* A a SPAGHETTI WESTERN made in 1964 with Clint Eastwood —see colour picture on page 685

**fis-ti-cuffs** /'fɪstɪkʌfs/ *n* [P] old use or humor fighting with the fists

**fit<sup>1</sup>** /fɪt/ *v* -tt- 1 [I;T not in progressive forms] to be the right size or shape (for): *The lid fits badly.* | *This jacket fits like a glove.* (=very well and closely) | *This dress doesn't fit me.* | *Will your key fit the lock?* | (fig.) *Your theory fits all the facts.* | (fig.) *They didn't give me the job because my face doesn't fit.* (=they do not regard me as a suitable person for that company) 2 [T (for) not in progressive forms] to be suitable (for): *to make the punishment fit the crime [+obj+to-v]* *Her experience and abilities fit her admirably for the job/to do the job.* —see also FITTING<sup>1</sup> 3 [T] to provide and put correctly into place: *We're fitting new locks/We're having new locks fitted on all the doors.* —see also FITTED (2) 4 **fit the bill** to do or be what is wanted or needed: *We needed a journalist with specialist knowledge, and he fitted the bill.*

▷ USAGE The usual past form of fit is fitted, but in the

first meaning fit can also be used in American English: *When he left the shop, the suit fit him perfectly.* <

**fit in phr v** 1 [I;T (=fit sthg. ↔ in)] to (cause to) match or agree; HARMONIZE: *His ideas did not quite fit in with our aims.* | *Mary joined the local drama club but didn't seem to fit in, so she left.* | *I'll try to fit my holidays in with yours.* 2 [T] (fit sbdy./sthg. ↔ in) to find time to see (someone) or do (something), esp. when one is extremely busy: *Doctor Jones can fit you in on Thursday afternoon.* | *We must try and fit in a visit to Westminster Abbey while we're in London.*

**fit sbdy./sthg. ↔ out phr v** [T] to supply (a person or place) with necessary things; EQUIP or furnish: *The ship has been newly fitted out.*

**fit sbdy./sthg. ↔ up phr v** [T] 1 esp. BrE to furnish or arrange (esp. a place); EQUIP: *We had to fit up one of the bedrooms as an office.* 2 BrE sl to cause to seem guilty of a crime; FRAME<sup>2</sup> (3): *He was fitted up for the murder.*

**fit<sup>2</sup> adj -tt-** 1 [+for/to-v] right and suitable for a particular purpose, person, or situation: *I don't think she's really fit for the job.* | *a meal fit for a king* (=a very good meal) | *The health inspector said the food in the restaurant was not fit for human consumption.* | *She's not fit to be in charge of small children/not a fit person to be in charge of small children.* | *Go and wash! You're not fit to be seen.* 2 physically healthy and strong, esp. as a result of regular exercise: *He runs three miles every morning; that's why he's so fit.* | *She goes to keep-fit classes and does exercises every day.* —opposite unfit 3 (as) fit as a fiddle/flea infml perfectly healthy 4 fit to be tied AmE infml upset, anxious, or angry 5 fit to burst infml as if about to explode: *They were laughing fit to burst.* 6 fit to drop (as if) about to fall on the ground, esp. because of extreme tiredness: *We worked till we were fit to drop.* 7 see/think fit (to do) to decide; consider it right (to do): *It's your responsibility — you must do as you see fit.*

**fit<sup>3</sup> n** [S] the particular way in which something fits: *This coat's a beautiful fit.* | *I'll try to climb through, but it's a tight fit.*

**fit<sup>4</sup> n** 1 [(of)] a short attack of a slight illness or violent feeling: *a fit of coughing* | *I hit her in a fit of anger/of pique.* | (fig.) *She kept them in fits (of laughter) with her jokes.* 2 a period of loss of consciousness, with strange uncontrolled movements of the body: *She suffers from epileptic fits.* | (fig., infml) *The boss will have a fit/throw a fit (=be very angry) when he hears what you've done.* 3 in/by fits and starts continually starting and stopping; not regularly

**fit-ful** /'fɪtʃəl/ *adj* irregular; happening for short periods of time: *fitful showers of rain* — ~ly adv: *He slept fitfully.*

**fit-ment** /'fɪtmənt/ *n* [often pl.] BrE a piece of fitted furniture: *bathroom fitments*

**fit-ness** /'fɪtnəs/ *n* [U] 1 the state of being physically fit: *They're doing exercises to improve their fitness.* 2 [+for/to-v] the quality of being suitable: *No one questions her fitness for the job/to do the job.*

**fitness freak** /'fɪtnəs ˈfriːk/ *n* often derog a person who spends a lot of time doing exercises to keep their body strong and in good condition

**fit-ted** /'fɪtɪd/ *adj* 1 [F+with] including (a part, piece of apparatus, etc.): *Is the car fitted with a radio?* 2 [A] fixed in place: *a fitted carpet* | *fitted cupboards*

**fit-ter** /'fɪtə/ *n* 1 a person who puts together or repairs machines or electrical parts: *a gas fitter* 2 a person who cuts out clothes and/or makes them the correct size for other people

**fit-ting<sup>1</sup>** /'fɪtɪŋ/ *adj* fml right for the purpose or occasion; suitable: *It is fitting that we should honour their memory.* | *a fitting tribute to the dead soldiers*

**fitting<sup>2</sup> n** 1 [usu. pl.] something necessary that is fixed into a building but able to be moved: *electric light fittings* —compare FIXTURE 2 an occasion when one puts on clothes that are being made for one, to see if they fit: *I'm going for a fitting on Tuesday.*

**Fitz-ger-ald** /fɪts'dʒerəld/, El-la /'elə/ (1918– ) an American JAZZ singer who became successful in the US in the 1940s and then internationally when she toured the world with the big bands of Duke Ellington and Count Basie

**Fitzgerald, F Scott** (1896–1940) an American writer known esp. for the books *Tender is the Night* and *The Great Gatsby*



**Fitzgerald, Dr Gar-rett** /'gærət/ (1926– ) an Irish politician and PRIME MINISTER of the Republic of Ireland until 1987

**five** /faɪv/ *determiner, n, pron* **1** (the number) 5 —see TABLE 1 **2** *AmE* a five-dollar bill: *Have you got a five?*

**five-and-ten** /fɪ·ə·'ten/ also **dime store, five-and-dime, five-and-ten-cent store** /fɪ·ə·'ten·sɪnt/ — *n* *AmE* a shop which sells many different types of inexpensive goods, esp. for the house: *Run down to the five-and-ten and get me a broom, please, honey.*

**five-barred gate** /fɪ·ə·'ten/ *n* a large gate made of wooden bars, usu. used at the entrance to a field

**five o'clock shadow** /fɪ·ə·'ten/ *n* [S] *infml* a darkness caused by hair growing on the face of a man who has not shaved (SHAVE) since the morning

**501's** /fɪ·ə·'ten/ *n* [P] *tdmk* a type of JEANS made by Levi Strauss, Inc (LEVIS) which have buttons in the front instead of a ZIP. They are considered fashionable, esp. if they are old and faded (FADE).

**five-er** /fɪ·ə·'ten/ *n* *BrE infml* £5 or a five-pound note: *It costs a fiver.* | *I've only got fivers.*

**fives** /faɪvz/ *n* [U] a British ball game in which the ball is hit with the hand against any of three walls —compare HANDBALL; see also **a bunch of fives** (BUNCH<sup>1</sup> (3))

**five-spot** /fɪ·ə·'ten/ *n* *AmE sl* a five-dollar bill

**five-star** /fɪ·ə·'ten/ *adj* [A] of the highest standard or quality: *a five-star hotel*

**fix<sup>1</sup>** /fiks/ *v* [T] **1** [+obj+adv/prep] to fasten firmly in position: *I fixed it to the wall with a nail.* | *She fixed a new handle on the door.* | (fig.) *The address is fixed in my mind.* | (fig.) *He fixed his eyes on her.* | (fig.) *Don't try and fix the blame on me.* —see also **FIXED** **2** [(UP)] to arrange and establish (an exact time, place, price, etc.), esp. through agreement: *Let's fix (up) a time for the meeting.* | *The rent was fixed at £45.* | *Have you got anything fixed for the weekend?* (=Have you arranged to do anything?) | *If you want to meet them, I can fix it.* [+wh-] *We haven't fixed (up) where to stay yet.* [+to-v] *They've fixed to go to Borneo.* —compare **FIX ON**, **FIX UP** (1) **3** to repair: *I must get the radio fixed.* **4** esp. *AmE* to cook or prepare (esp. food or drink): *She's fixing breakfast.* [+obj(i)+obj(d)] *Let me fix you a drink.* **5** a to arrange the result of (something) dishonestly: *The election was fixed.* | *She accused the chairman of fixing the vote.* b *infml* to influence dishonestly, esp. by BRIBERY: *Can they fix the judge?* **6** *infml* to deal with (someone who has harmed you); get even with (EVEN<sup>2</sup> (2)) **7** *AmE infml* to NEUTER<sup>2</sup> a pet, esp. a dog or cat: *We took the cat in to be fixed last week.* **8** [I (TO)] *AmE infml* to prepare or plan (to do sthg.): *I was just fixing to call you.* | *They're fixing to go camping this weekend.* **9** *tech* to protect (colours or photographic film) from the effects of light by chemical treatment

**fix on** sthg./sbdy. *phr v* [T] to choose or decide after considering: *We've fixed on the 14th of April for the wedding.* —compare **FIX<sup>1</sup>** (2)

**fix** sbdy./sthg. ↔ **up** *phr v* [T] **1** [(with)] *infml* to provide (someone) with something they need, usu. by making arrangements: *Can you fix me up with a bed for the night?* —compare **FIX<sup>1</sup>** (2) **2** to repair, change, or improve to make suitable for new needs: *My mother's getting too old to live on her own, so we're fixing up the spare room for her.*

**fix** sbdy. **with** sthg. *phr v* [T] to look for a long time at (someone) with: *He fixed me with an intense stare and I couldn't move.*

**fix<sup>2</sup>** *n* **1** [C] *infml* an awkward or difficult position; **PREDICAMENT**: *We're in a real fix — there's nobody to look after the baby!* **2** [S] *infml* something that has been dishonestly arranged: *The election was a fix!* —see also **FIX<sup>1</sup>** (5) **3** [C (of)] *sl* (used by drug-takers) an INJECTION: *He didn't know where his next fix was coming from.* **4** [C (on)] the (calculation of) the position of a ship, spacecraft, etc., found by looking at the stars, taking measurements, etc.

**fix-a-ted** /fɪksə'teɪd/ *adj* [F (on)] thinking, talking, etc. continuously about one particular thing, so as not to give enough attention to anything else: *The popular newspapers seem to be fixated on stories about sex and drugs.*

**fix-a-tion** /fɪksə'teɪʃən/ *n* **1** [(about, with)] a strong un-

healthy feeling (about) or love (for); **OBSESSION**: *He has a fixation about cleanliness.* | *a mother fixation* **2** *tech* a stopping of the growth of the mind and character at a certain stage, so that the person remains childish

**fix-a-tive** /'fɪksətɪv/ *n* [C;U] a chemical used for sticking things together, holding things, esp. hair or false teeth, in position, or fixing colours

**fixed** /fɪkst/ *adj* **1** fastened; not movable or changeable: *The tables are firmly fixed to the floor.* | *The date is fixed now.* | (fig.) *He has very fixed ideas on this subject.* **2** [F (for)] *infml* supplied with something that one needs: *How are you fixed for money?* (=How much do you have?)

**fixed as-sets** /fɪksə'set/ *n* [P] things which a business has or owns which are likely to be used over a long period of time, e.g. land, buildings, equipment, etc.

**fixed cap-i-tal** /fɪksə'kæpɪtəl/ *n* [U] buildings or machines which a business owns and which can be used for a long period of time in the production of other goods

**fixed charge** /fɪksə'tʃɑːʒ/ *n* a cost which does not change for some time

**fixed costs** /fɪksə'kɒsts/ *n* [P] costs of rent, rates, etc. which an organization has to pay even when no production is taking place

**fix-ed-ly** /'fɪksɪdli/ *adv* steadily; with great attention: *He stared fixedly at the woman in black.*

**fixed star** /fɪksə'stɑː/ *n* a star so distant that its movement can be measured only by very exact calculations over long periods, unlike that of the PLANETS

**fix-er** /'fɪksə/ *n* *infml* a person who is good at arranging that a desired result or state of affairs happens, esp. by using influence or dishonesty

**fix-ings** /'fɪksɪŋz/ *n* [the+P] *AmE infml* foods that go with a main dish for a meal: *turkey with all the fixings*

**Fix-it** /'fɪksɪt/ *BrE infml* a name given to a person who manages to arrange or organize things for other people: *He's known in the hospital as Mr Fixit.* —see also **Jimmy SAVILE**

**fix-i-ty** /'fɪksɪti/ *n* [U] *fml* the quality of being fixed; firmness: *fixity of purpose*

**fix-ture** /'fɪkstʃə/ *n* **1** something necessary, such as a bath, that is fixed into a building and sold with it: *The price includes all fixtures and fittings.* | *bathroom fixtures* —compare **FITTING<sup>2</sup>**, **FURNISHINGS** **2** *BrE* a match or sports competition taking place on an agreed date: *to arrange this season's fixtures* **3** someone or something that is always present in a place or that is strongly connected with a place or activity: *I can't believe she's leaving the company — I thought she was a permanent fixture!*

**fizz<sup>1</sup>** /fɪz/ *v* [I] to make the sound of BUBBLES of gas bursting: *The firework fizzed.* | *She uncorked the champagne and it fizzed out.* (=came out fizzing)

**fizz<sup>2</sup>** *n* **1** [S] the sound of fizzing **2** [U] BUBBLES of gas in a liquid: *You didn't put the top back on the soda and now all the fizz has gone out of it.*

**fiz-zle** /'fɪzəl/

**fizzle out** *phr v* [I] *infml* to fail or end disappointingly, esp. after a good start: *The game fizzled out into a tame draw.*

**fiz-zy** /'fɪzi/ *adj* (of a liquid) containing BUBBLES of gas

**fizzy drink** /fɪzɪ·'drɪŋk/ *n* a sweet, non-alcoholic drink, usu. drunk by children: *Try to reduce the number of sweets and fizzy drinks that your child has.*

**fjord**, **fiord** /'fiːd, 'fjɔːd, 'fiːd, 'fjɔːd/ *n* a narrow arm of the sea between cliffs or steep slopes, esp. in Norway

**FL** *written abbrev. for:* FLORIDA

**flab** /flæb/ *n* [U] *infml derog* soft loose flesh on a person's body: *She's gone on a diet and is trying to do more exercise in an effort to fight the flab* (=become thinner)

**flab-ber-gast** /'flæbəgæst||-ərgæst/ *v* [T *usu. pass.*] *infml* to surprise very much; fill with shocked wonder, usu. so that one is unable to think clearly: *I was absolutely flabbergasted when she told me the price.*

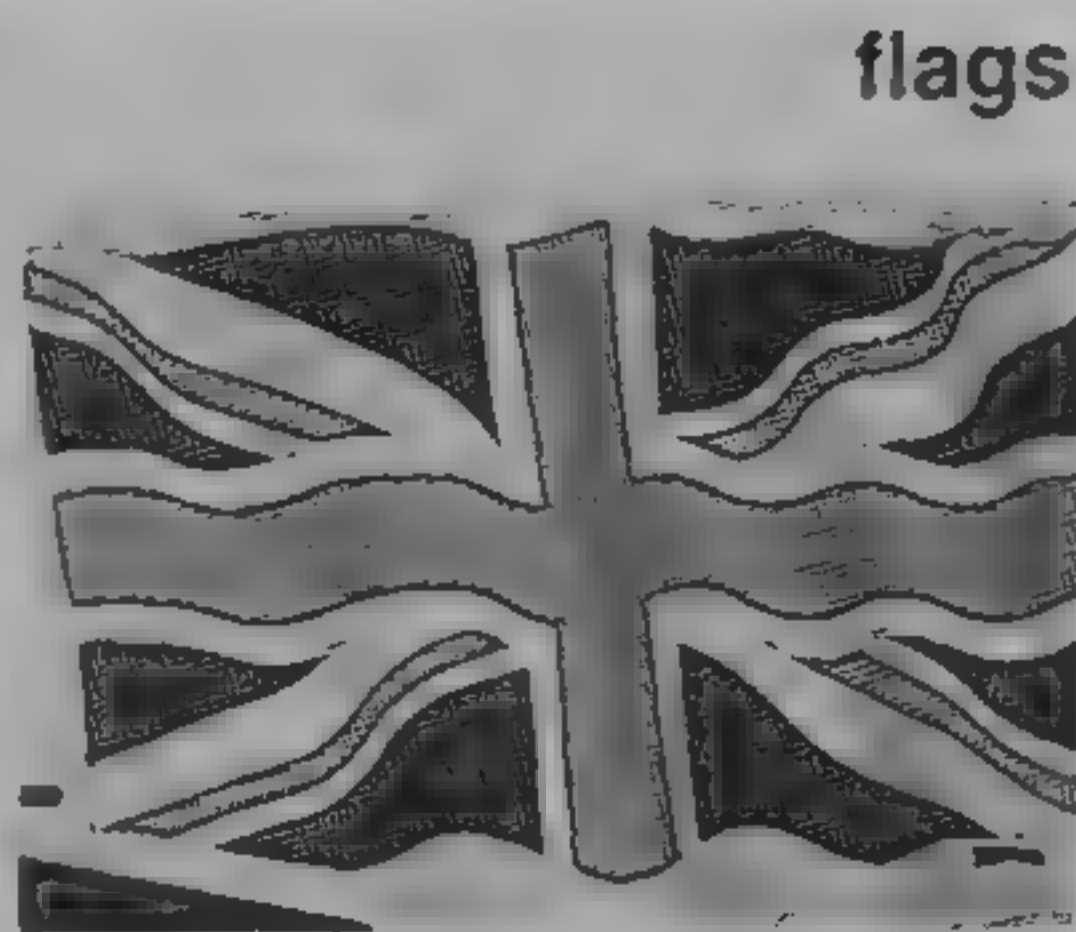
**flab-by** /'flæbi/ *adj derog* **1** having soft loose flesh; (of muscles) soft and lacking firmness: *I became rather flabby after I stopped playing football regularly.* **2** lacking force or effectiveness: *a flabby, unconvincing argument* —**bily** *adv* —**business** *n* [U]



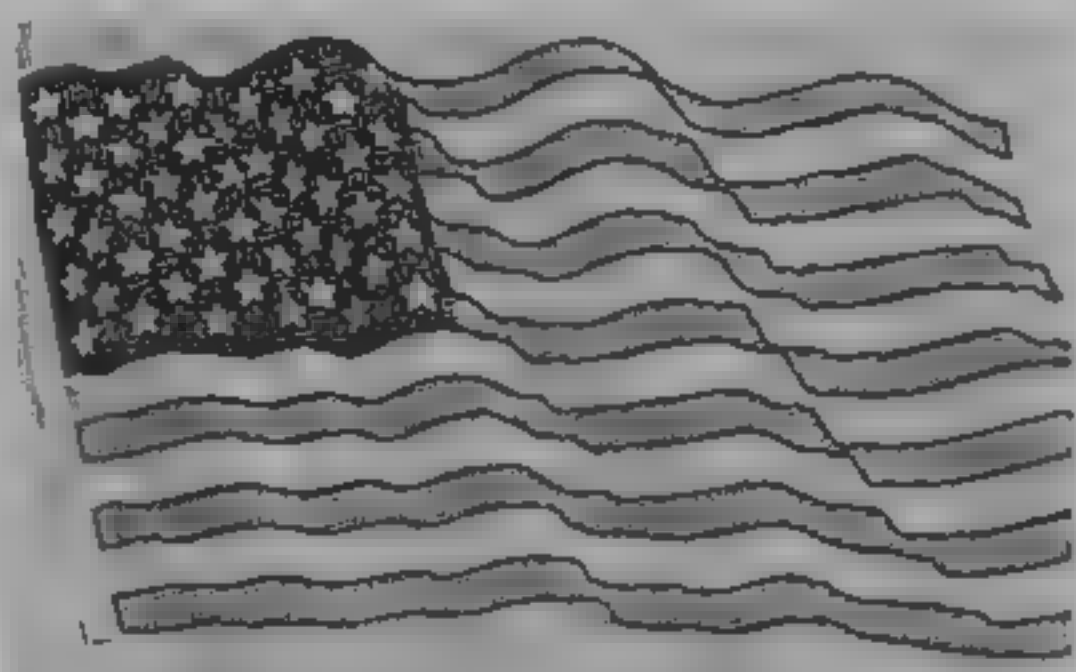
**flac·cid** /'flæsɪd, 'flæksɪd/ *adj*  
not firm enough; weak and  
soft: *flaccid plant stems* —  
~ly *adv* —~ity /flæ'sɪdɪti,  
flæk-/ *n* [U]

**flack** /flæk/ *n* [U] FLAK

**flag**<sup>1</sup> /flæg/ *n* 1 a square or OB-  
LONG piece of material, usu.  
with a pattern or picture on  
it, that is put up as a sign of  
a country, organization, etc.,  
or to make signals. Flags are  
often flown at HALF-MAST  
when an important person  
has died: *The French flags  
were flapping/fluttering in  
the breeze.* | *The danger flag  
was flying.* (=being shown) |  
*The children waved their  
flags as the queen passed by.*  
(fig.) *Most of the countries  
that once lived under the Brit-  
ish flag (=were ruled by Bri-  
tain) are now independent.*



The Union Jack



The Stars and Stripes

► **CULTURAL NOTE** In the US the American flag is a very important SYMBOL of the country and is supposed to be treated with respect. Children repeat the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag (= promise to be loyal to the country and its flag) at school and are usually taught how to fold it correctly. In the 1960s some American people burned the flag to protest against the Vietnam War, and many Americans felt very strongly that this was wrong. ◀

**2 keep the flag flying** to continue to represent one's beliefs, or continue to represent one's own country in another country: *When the island became independent, only a few Dutch teachers and nurses remained to keep the flag flying.* **3 show the flag** to remind people of the political and military presence and power of one's country: *An American naval force is showing the flag in various Mediterranean ports.* —see also RED FLAG, WHITE FLAG and see picture at GOLF

**flag**<sup>2</sup> *v* -gg- [T] to put a special mark on (something) so it can be picked out from among others

**flag** sthg./sbdy. ↔ **down** *phr v* [T] to cause (a vehicle or its driver) to stop by waving at the driver: *I tried to flag down a taxi.*

**flag**<sup>3</sup> *v* -gg- [I] to be or become weak and less alive or active: *After walking for four hours we were beginning to flag.* | *I tried to revive his flagging interest in the subject.* —see also UNFLAGGING

**flag**<sup>4</sup> *n* a FLAGSTONE

**flag**<sup>5</sup> *n* a plant with long blade-like leaves that grows in wet places

**flag day** /'flæɪ/ *n* BrE a day on which money is collected for a CHARITY by asking people in the street to give money. Those who give receive paper flags or small STICKERS

**Flag Day** June 14th, a day in the US when people fly the US flag, remembering the day in 1777 when the STARS AND STRIPES (=US flag) was officially accepted and first used

**flag-gel-lant** /'flædzɪlənt, flə'dʒelənt/ *n* *tech* someone who whips himself or herself as a religious punishment

**flag-gel-late** /'flædzɪleɪt/ *v* [T] *fml* to whip, esp. as a religious punishment or for sexual pleasure —lation /'flædzɪ-'leɪʃən/ *n* [U]

**flag foot-ball** /'flæɡfʊt/ *n* [U] a game of American football played mainly in schools in which tearing off one of the flags a player wears around his waist stops play

**flag of con-ve-ni-ence** /'flæɡəvəniəns/ *n* the flag of a country in which a ship owned by someone from another country is officially recorded, in order to avoid the rules and taxes of its home country

**flag-on** /'flæɡən/ *n* a large container for liquids such as wine, usu. with a lid, a handle, and a lip or SPOUT for pouring

**flag-pole** /'flæɡpəʊl/ *n* a long pole to raise a flag on, fixed in the ground or on a building

**flag-grant** /'flæɡrənt/ *adj* (of a bad action or person) open and with no sign of guilt; OUTRAGEOUS: *a flagrant abuse of the*

## flags

*taxpayers' money* | *a flagrant liar* —~ly *adv* —grancy *n* [U]

**flag-ship** /'flæɡʃɪp/ *n* 1 the chief ship among a group of naval warships, on which the ADMIRAL sails 2 the finest or most expensive product in a set of things made by a company: *The new car is the flagship of the Ford range.*

**flag-staff** /'flæɡsta:f/—stæf/ *n* a flagpole

**flag-stone** /'flæɡstəʊn/ also **flag**— *n* a hard, smooth, flat piece of stone for a floor or path

**flag stop** /'flæɡstɒp/ *n* AmE for REQUEST STOP

**flag-wav-ing** /'flæɡweɪɪŋ/ *n* [U] *derog* the noisy expression of national military feeling; JINGOISM

**flail**<sup>1</sup> /fleɪl/ *n* a wooden tool consisting of a stick swinging from the end of a long handle, used esp. in former times for threshing (THRESH)

**flail**<sup>2</sup> *v* [I;T] 1 to beat (grain) with a flail 2 to (cause to) wave violently but aimlessly about: *He ran down the hill at full speed, his arms flailing wildly.*

**flair** /fleə/ *n* 1 [S;U (for)] (a) natural ability to do some special thing well: *She has a flair for writing poetry.* 2 [U] a way of doing things which is different, interesting, and has style: *The new director certainly has got flair.*

**flak**, **flack** /flæk/ *n* [U] 1 firing from guns that shoot at enemy aircraft from the ground 2 *infml* severe disapproval or opposition: *Their proposal to increase the price of school dinners has run into/come in for a lot of flak.*

**flake**<sup>1</sup> /fleɪk/ *n* [(of)] 1 (often in comb.) a light leaf-like little bit (of something soft): *soap flakes* | *flakes of snow* 2 a thin flat broken-off piece (of something hard): *A flake of bone had lodged itself in his knee.* —see picture at PIECE

**flake**<sup>2</sup> *v* [I (OFF)] to fall off in flakes: *The paint's beginning to flake (off).*

**flake out** *phr v* [I] *infml* 1 to fall asleep or become unconscious because of great tiredness 2 AmE to become slightly mad

**flake**<sup>3</sup> *n* AmE *sl* a person whose behaviour is strange or slightly mad, or who behaves in a way one cannot trust: *I wouldn't depend on a ride from Kevin; he's a real flake.*

~ **Flake** *n* *tdmk* a type of milk chocolate bar made by Cadbury's

**flak jack-et** /'flækʃækət/ *n* a JACKET of a heavy material with metal bands inside it to protect the wearer from FLAK. They are worn by esp. soldiers who are in danger of being hit by flak, or by people who think them fashionable.

**flak-y** /'fleɪki/ *adj* 1 made up of flakes or tending to break into flakes 2 AmE *sl* behaving irresponsibly and foolishly, and in a way one cannot trust: *My brother's getting so flaky! He locked himself out of the house yesterday.* —see FLAKE<sup>3</sup> —iness *n* [U]

**flaky pas-try** /'flæki'pæstri/ *n* [U] a rich PASTRY made up of many very thin LAYERS

**flam-bé** /'flɒmbɛɪ/—fla:m'beɪ/ also **flam-béed** /'flɒmbɛɪd/—fla:m'beɪd/ *adj* Fr (of food) with alcohol such as BRANDY poured over it, and lit to give a flame

**flam-boy-ant** /flæm'bɔɪənt/ *adj* 1 brightly coloured and noticeable: *a flamboyant orange shirt* 2 (of a person or their behaviour) showy and confident: *With a flamboyant gesture he threw off the covering to reveal the new statue.* —~ly *adv* —ance *n* [U]

**flame**<sup>1</sup> /fleɪm/ *n* [C;U] (a area of) red or yellow burning gas seen when something is on fire: *The candle flame flickered and went out/died.* | *The dry sticks burst into flames.* | *The whole city was in flames.* (=burning) | *It's very dangerous to hold a naked flame* (=a flame which is not covered by glass, etc.) *anywhere near petrol.* —see also OLD FLAME

**flame**<sup>2</sup> *v* [I] 1 to be brightly filled with the colours of flame: *The evening sky flamed with red and orange.* | *Her cheeks flamed (red).* 2 to break out with sudden violence: *His anger flamed up.* | *He was flaming with anger.* | *I was in a flaming temper.* | *He had a flaming row with his wife.* —see also FLAMING

**fla-men-co** /flə'menkeɪ/ *n* [U] a form of very fast and exciting Spanish dance and music: *We went to see some flamenco dancing last night.*

**flame proof** /'flæmpʊf/ also **flame re-sist-ant** /'flæm'resɪstənt/ *n* made of a substance that does not burn easily

**flame-throw-er** /'flæm'traʊə/ *n* a gun-like instrument that throws



out flames or burning liquid under pressure, used as a weapon or in clearing wild land

**flam-ing** /'fleɪmɪŋ/ *adj* [A] *infml* (used for adding force to an expression): *You flaming idiot!*

**fla-min-go** /flə'mɪŋɡəʊ/ *n* -gos or -goes a tall tropical water bird with long thin legs, pink and red feathers, and a broad beak that curves downwards —see picture at WATER BIRD

**flam-ma-ble** /'flæməbəl/ *adj* *AmE* or *tech* for INFLAMMABLE —opposite **nonflammable**

▷ **USAGE** Flammable and inflammable are not opposite in meaning. They have the same meaning, but flammable is used in the US and is also the British English technical word; both British English and American English use inflammable when it means “easily excited”.◀

**flan** /flæn/ *n* a round open case of pastry or cake, with a filling of fruit, cheese, etc. —see **PIE** (USAGE)

**Flan-ders** /'flændəz/ || 'flændəz/ a REGION of the Low Countries in what is now part of Belgium and Holland, which was an important battleground in the First World War

**Flanders, Mi-chael** /'maɪkəl/ (1922–75) an English entertainer known esp. as one of the pair **Flanders and Swann**. He wrote the words for the many funny songs that he and Donald Swann performed together. —see also **Donald SWANN**

**Flanders, Moll** a main character in the book *The Fortunes and Misfortunes of the famous Moll Flanders* by Daniel Defoe. In the book, Moll tells the story of her many marriages, relationships, and life of crime in a way which is amusing and makes the reader sympathetic towards her.

**flange** /flændʒ/ *n* the flat edge that stands out from the main surface of an object such as a railway wheel, to keep it in position

**flank**¹ /flæŋk/ *n* 1 the side of a person or animal, between the RIBS and the HIP —see picture at **HORSE** 2 the side of an army at war: *The enemy attacked us on the left flank.*

**flank**² *v* [T often pass.] to be placed beside; **BORDER**: *The road was flanked with/by tall trees.*

**flan-nel**¹ /'flænl/ *n* 1 [U] a smooth loosely woven woollen or cotton cloth with a slightly furry surface: *grey flannel trousers* | *flannel sheets* —see also **FLANNELS** 2 [C] *esp. BrE* || **washcloth** *AmE* —a piece of cloth used for washing oneself 3 [U] *infml, esp. BrE* meaningless though attractive words used to avoid giving a direct answer, to deceive, etc.: *That's just a lot of flannel — tell me the truth!*

**flannel**² *v* -ll- *BrE* || -l- *AmE* [T] *infml, esp. BrE* to deceive, **FLATTER**, etc., by using **FLANNEL**¹ (3)

**flan-nel-ette** *BrE* || also **flannelet** *AmE* /,flænəl'et/ *n* [U] cotton cloth with a furry surface that looks like flannel: *flannelette sheets*

**flan-nels** /'flænlz/ *n* [P] *esp. BrE* men's flannel trousers, esp. as worn for summer games like cricket —see **PAIR** (USAGE)

**flap**¹ /flæp/ *n* 1 [C] a wide flat thin part of anything that hangs down, esp. so as to cover an opening: *He wore a cap with flaps to cover his ears.* | *We crept under the flap of the tent.* | *Stick down the flap of the envelope.* 2 [S] the sound of flapping: *the slow flap of the sails* 3 [S] *infml* a state of excited anxiety: *Don't get in a flap — we'll soon find it!* —see also **UNFLAPPABLE**

**flap**² *v* -pp- 1 [I;T] to wave (something large and soft) or move slowly up and down or backwards and forwards, usu. making a noise: *The bird flapped its wings.* | *The sails flapped in the wind.* 2 [I+adv/prep] (of a usu. large bird) to fly: *The eagle flapped across the sky.* 3 [I] *BrE infml* to be in a state of excited anxiety: *There's no need to flap.*

**flap-jack** /'flæpdʒæk/ *n* 1 a PANCAKE cooked in a pan on top of the fire 2 *BrE* || **granola bar** *AmE* —a mixture of OATS and other things baked into a sweet cake

**flap-per** /'flæpə/ *n* a fashionable woman in the 1920s who wore short dresses and had modern ideas

**flare**¹ /fleə/ *v* 1 [I (UP)] to burn brightly, but with an unsteady flame or for a short time: *A match flared (up) in the darkness.* 2 [I;T] to (cause to) open outwards, esp. to widen gradually towards the bottom: *Her nostrils flared with anger.* | *flared trousers*

**flare up** *phr v* *BrE* || also **flare out** *AmE* — [I] to show sudden increased anger, activity, or violence: *Street-fighting has flared up again in the big cities.* | *His anger flared out momentarily before he regained self-control.* —**flare-up** /'·/ *n*

**flare**² *n* 1 [S] a flaring light: *There was a sudden flare as she lit the gas.* 2 [C] (something that provides) a bright light out of doors, often used as a signal: *After the ship sank the survivors fired off flares in the hope someone would see them.* 3 [C] a widening towards one end: *trousers with wide flares*

**flare path** /'·/ *n* a lit-up path for aircraft to land on

**flares** /fleəz/ || fleərz/ *n* [P] trousers that become wider below the knee. Flares were fashionable esp. in the 1960s and '70s and are now connected in people's minds with this period.

**flash**¹ /flæʃ/ *v* 1 [I] (of a light) to appear as a sudden very bright flame or flare: *The lightning flashed.* | *We watched the flashing lights of the cars.* | (fig.) *Her eyes flashed with anger.* 2 [T (at)] to make a flash with; shine for a moment: *Why is that driver flashing his lights (at me)?* | *Stop flashing that light in my face.* | (fig.) *She flashed a shy smile at him.* [+obj(i)+obj(d)] *She flashed him a shy smile.* 3 [I+adv/prep] to move very fast: *The days seem to flash by.* | (fig.) *An intriguing idea suddenly flashed across/into/through my mind.* 4 [T+obj+adv/prep] to show for a moment: *They flashed a message up on the cinema screen.* | *She flashed a £5 note at the man by the door and he let her in.* | (fig.) *George certainly flashes his money around!* (=makes a show of having lots of money by spending it freely) 5 [T+obj+adv/prep] to send by radio, SATELLITE, etc: *They flashed the news back to London.* 6 [I] *infml* (of a man) to show the sexual organs in public, usu. in order to get sexual pleasure —compare **STREAK**

**flash back** *phr v* [I (to)] to return suddenly to an earlier time (as if) in a **FLASHBACK**: *My mind flashed back to last Christmas.*

**flash forward** *phr v* [I (to)] to go forward in time in a cinema film to show what happens later in the story

**flash**² *n* 1 [C (of)] a sudden quick bright light: *Flashes of lightning illuminated the scene.* | (fig.) *a sudden flash of inspiration/wit* 2 [C] a single movement of a light or flag in signalling 3 [C] *infml* a quick look; **GLIMPSE**: *Go on, give me a quick flash!* 4 [C] a short news report: *They interrupted the programme with a news flash saying the President had died.* 5 [C;U] (in photography) the method or apparatus for taking photographs in the dark: *Did you use a flash?* 6 [C] the sign of a military group, worn on the shoulder of a uniform 7 **flash in the pan** a sudden success that is not repeated: *His brilliant novel turned out to be a flash in the pan; he never wrote another one.* 8 **in a/like a/quick as a flash** *infml* very quickly, suddenly, or soon; (almost) at once: *I'll be back in a flash.*

**flash**³ *adj* 1 [A] a (of a flood, fire, etc.) sudden, violent, and short: *Flash fires have broken out in several parts of the country.* b (in comb.) done very quickly: *flash-freezing* —see also **FLASH FLOOD** 2 *BrE infml, often derog* modern, attractive, and expensive-looking; **FLASHY**: *That's a very flash car — where did you get it?*

**Flash** *n* [U] *tdmk* a cleaning substance made by Procter and Gamble Ltd, used to remove dirt from esp. floors; it is sold as a liquid or as a powder which can be mixed with water

**flash-back** /'flæʃbæk/ *n* 1 [C;U] a scene in a film, play, etc. that goes back in time to show what happened earlier in the story: *The events of his childhood are shown in (a) flashback.* —see also **FLASH BACK** 2 [C] a burst of flame backwards up a tube, into a container, etc.

**flash-bulb** /'flæʃbʌlb/ *n* an electric lamp in which metal wire or **FOIL** burns brightly for a moment, used for taking a photograph

flapper





**flash burn** /'flæʃbɜːn/ *n* a burn caused by a very sudden, very strong heat, e.g. when there is an explosion

**flash-card** /'flæʃkɑːd||-kɑːrd/ *n* a card with a word, number, or picture on it used in teaching

**flash-cube** /'flæʃkjʊːb/ *n* four flashbulbs packed together, for taking four photographs one after the other

**flash-er** /'flæʃə/ *n* 1 something that flashes, such as a traffic signal or a light on a car 2 *sl* a man who habitually shows his sexual parts unexpectedly to strangers, esp. women, and is excited by the thought of shocking them —compare STREAKER; see also DIRTY MAC BRIGADE

**flash flood** /, 'flæʃflood/ *n* a very sudden flood in a small area because of extremely heavy rain

**flash freeze** /, 'flæʃfriːz/ *v* [T] *AmE* for QUICKFREEZE

**Flash Gordon** /, 'flæʃgɔːdn/ a character who appeared in American COMICS and films in the 1930s. In the stories, Flash Gordon travels through space and saves the Earth from many dangers.

**flash-gun** /'flæʃgʌn/ *n* a piece of equipment which holds a FLASHBULB and makes it work at the moment when the photograph is taken

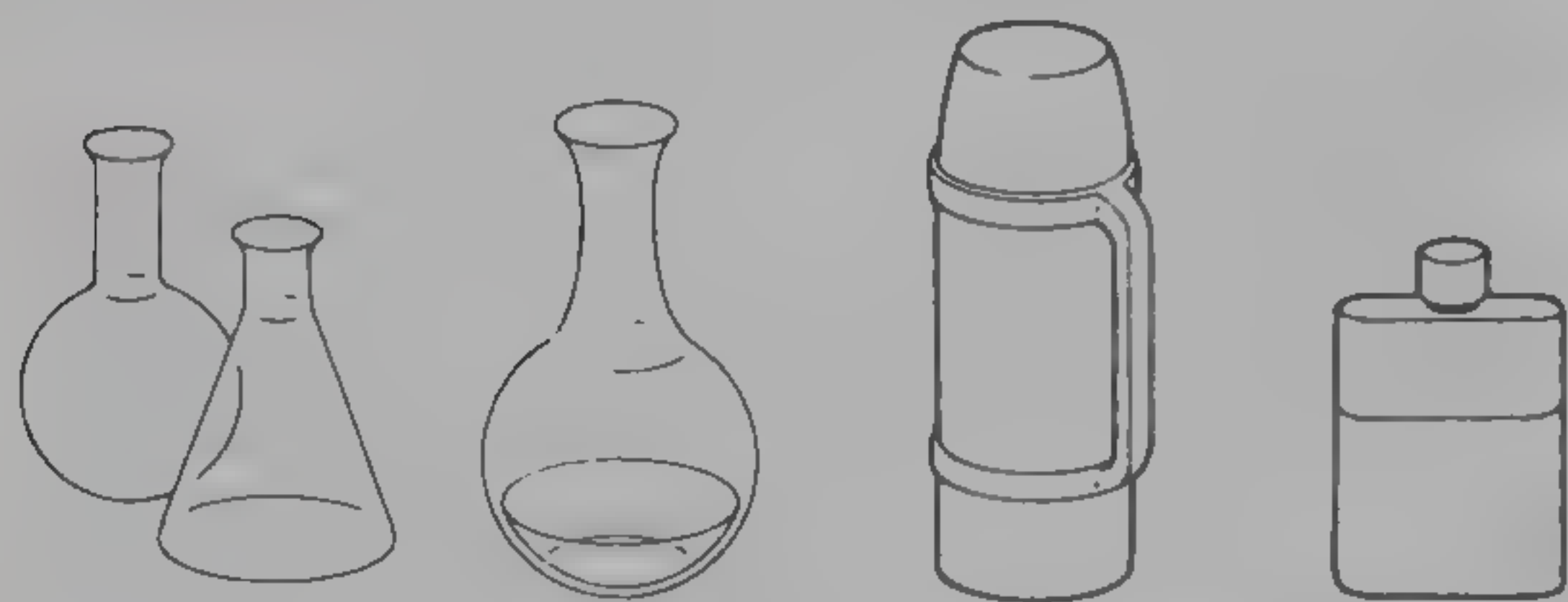
**flash-light** /'flæʃlaɪt/ *n* 1 also **flash**— *esp. BrE* a piece of equipment for taking flash photographs: *Did you bring your flashlight/your flash?* 2 *esp. AmE* a small electric light carried in the hand to give light; TORCH

**Flash-man** /'flæʃmən/ a character in the story *Tom Brown's Schooldays* who is cruel and bullies (BULLY) boys who are younger than he is —see also TOM BROWN'S SCHOOLDAYS

**flash point** /'flæʃpɔɪnt/ *n* [C;U] 1 the lowest temperature at which the gas (VAPOUR) from oil will burn if a flame is put near it 2 a point or place at which violent action may be expected: *I could tell from the look in his eyes that he was reaching (his) flash point.* | *Beirut is one of the flash points of the Middle East.*

**flash-y** /'flæʃi/ *adj derog* unpleasantly big, bright, decorated, etc., and perhaps not of good quality: *a large flashy car* | *cheap flashy clothes* —compare FLASH<sup>3</sup> (2) —*ily adv*: *flashily dressed* —*iness n* [U]

## flasks



carafe thermos flask hip flask

**flask** /flæːsk||flæsk/ *n* 1 a narrow-necked bottle used in a LABORATORY 2 a flat bottle for carrying alcohol or other drinks in one's pocket, fastened to one's belt, etc. —see also HIP FLASK and see picture at LABORATORY 3 also **thermos flask**, **thermos**— a bottle with two thin glass walls between which there is a VACUUM, used to keep liquids either hot or cold 4 [(of)] the amount of liquid that a flask contains: *We drank a whole flask of tea/whisky.*

**flat<sup>1</sup>** /flæt/ *n* 1 [C] *BrE* || **apartment** *esp. AmE* — a set of rooms in a building, esp. on one floor, including a kitchen and bathroom: *They divided the house into flats.* | *Who lives in the top flat?* | *They're building a block of flats.* —see HOUSE (USAGE) and see picture at HOUSE 2 [C] also **flats pl.** — a low level plain, esp. near water: *mud flats* 3 [(the (of))] the flat part or side: *I hit him with the flat of my hand/my sword.* 4 [C] *esp. AmE* a flat tyre: *Stop — I think we've got a flat!* 5 [C] (in music) a FLAT<sup>2</sup> (8) note *b* the sign (*b*) for this — compare SHARP<sup>3</sup>, NATURAL<sup>2</sup> (2) 6 [C] a flat movable piece of stage scenery 7 **on the flat** not on a slope; on level ground: *I can walk at four miles an hour on the flat.* —see also FLATS

**flat<sup>2</sup>** *adj -tt-* 1 smooth and level; not rounded or lumpy: *I need something flat to write on.* | *Spread the map out flat on the floor.* | *a flat surface* 2 not very thick or high: *flat cakes* | *a flat hat* 3 (of a tyre) without enough air in it 4 *BrE* (of a BATTERY) || **dead** *AmE*— having lost some or all of its electrical power 5 (of beer and other gassy

drinks, or their taste) no longer fresh because the gas has been lost 6 [F] dull and lifeless: *Everything seems so flat after the Christmas and New Year celebrations are over.* 7 [F] (in music) lower than the correct note: *You're flat! Sing it again.* —compare SHARP<sup>1</sup> (10) 8 [after *n*] (of a note in music) lower than the stated note by a SEMITONE: *a symphony in the key of E flat* —compare SHARP<sup>1</sup> (11), NATURAL<sup>1</sup> (6) 9 [A *no comp.*] complete; firm; with no more argument: *My request was met with a flat refusal.* | *The allegations provoked a flat denial.* | *I won't go, and that's flat!* 10 [A] (of an amount of money, a charge, etc.) fixed; not variable: *They charge a flat rate/flat fee.* —see also FLATLY, fall flat (FALL<sup>1</sup>), lay someone/something flat (LAY<sup>2</sup> (10)) 11 **flat as a pancake** very flat —*ness n* [U]

**flat<sup>3</sup>** *adv* 1 in or into a flat or level position: *Spread the map out flat on the floor.* 2 (in music) lower than the correct note: *You're singing flat.* —compare SHARP<sup>2</sup> (3) 3 *infml* (after an expression of time, showing surprise at its shortness) exactly; and not more: *I got dressed in three minutes flat.* 4 **flat broke** completely without money 5 **flat out** at full speed: *He worked flat out to get it finished.* | *The car does 100 miles an hour flat out.*

**flat cap** /, 'flæt kæt/ *n* a CLOTH CAP

**flat car** /'flæt kɑː/ *n* *AmE* a flat railway car used to carry goods

**flat-chested** /, 'flæt tʃestəd/ *adj usu. derog* (of a woman) having small breasts

**Flat Earth So-ci-e-ty** /, 'flæt iːθ sɔːi.ə.ti/ [the] an American organization, a branch of which also exists in Britain, which believes that the Earth is flat and science cannot be trusted or believed

**flat feet** /, 'flæt fiːt/ *n* [P] a condition in which the curved bone structure in the foot is flattened, so that it rests flat on the ground. People with flat feet cannot walk for very long distances and so cannot join the army.

**flat-fish** /'flæt fɪʃ/ *n -fish or -fishes* a sea fish with a thin flat body, such as a SOLE or PLAICE

**flat-foot-ed** /, 'flæt fʊtəd/ *adj* 1 having FLAT FEET 2 **catch someone flatfooted** *AmE*— to surprise someone, usu. unpleasantly: *My mother-in-law dropped in and caught us flatfooted, with dirty dishes piled everywhere.*

**Flat Iron Building** /'flæt aɪrən buɪldɪŋ/ [the] a large office building in Manhattan, New York, which is shaped like a very large iron

**flat-let** /'flæt lɪt/ *n* *BrE* a very small FLAT<sup>1</sup> (1)

**flat-ly** /'flæt li/ *adv* 1 in a dull level way: *"It's hopeless," he said flatly.* 2 (esp. in expressions of refusal, disagreement, etc.) completely; firmly: *He flatly denied it.* | *She flatly refused to give us any information.* — compare FLAT<sup>2</sup> (9)

**flat-mate** /'flæt meɪt/ *n* *BrE* someone who shares a FLAT<sup>1</sup> (1) with another —compare ROOMMATE

**flat rac-ing** /'flæt ræɪŋ/ *n* [U] the sport of horseracing on flat ground with no jumps —compare STEEPLECHASE (1)

**flat rate** /, 'flæt reɪt/ *n* a fixed rate of payment or fixed charge for a piece of work

**flats** /flæts/ *n* 1 [the+P] *BrE* a block of FLATS<sup>1</sup> (1): *Do you live in the flats across the road?* 2 [P] *infml* shoes with flat SOLES<sup>1</sup> (2) 3 [P] FLAT<sup>1</sup> (2) —compare HEELS

**flat share** /'flæt ʃeə/ *n* *BrE* an arrangement by which people, usu. young people, share a flat with each other

**flat spin** /, 'flæt spɪn/ *n* 1 (in flying) a fast and often uncontrollable drop while spinning round and round in a level position 2 **go into/be in a flat spin** *esp. BrE infml* to go into/be in a state of excited confusion

**flat-ten** /'flæt n/ *v* 1 [I;T (OUT)] to make or become flat: *The rabbit was flattened by a passing car.* | *I flattened myself against the wall as the soldiers passed.* | *The hills flatten (out) as they near the coast.* 2 [T] (in music) to play or sing (a note) flat

**flatten out** *phr v* [I] (of an aircraft) to come to an upright position with the wings parallel to the ground: *The plane did a steep dive and flattened out at 10,000 feet.*

**flat-ter** /'flætə/ *v* [T] 1 [(on)] to praise (someone) too much or insincerely, esp. in order to gain advantage: *He flattered her (on her cooking).* | *flattering remarks* —compare COMPLIMENT<sup>2</sup> 2 [often *pass.*] to give pleasure to: *She was flattered at the invitation/flattered to be invited/flattered that they had invited her.* 3 (of a picture or photograph)



to make (the person shown there) look better or more beautiful: *a flattering photograph* | *The picture certainly doesn't flatter you.* **4 flatter oneself** to deceive oneself by imagining that one is more important than one really is: *"They're all watching me." "You flatter yourself!"* **5 flatter oneself (that)** to have the pleasant though perhaps mistaken opinion (that): *We flatter ourselves that we provide the best service in town.* — **er** *n*

**flat-ter-y** /'flætəri/ *n* [U] **1** flattering remarks **2** flattery will get you nowhere saying you will not gain what you want by saying flattering things to people

**flat-top** /'flæt-tɒp/ *n* AmE *infml* a man's haircut which is short and flat on top — **flat-top** *adj*: *a flat-top haircut*

**flat-u-lence** /'flætjələns/ *n* [U] *fml* (the feeling of discomfort caused by) too much gas in the stomach — **lent** *adj*

**flat-ware** /'flæt,weə/ *n* [U] AmE knives, forks, and spoons; CUTLERY

**Flau-bert** /'fləubeə/ *n* [U] *fml* **Gus-tave** /'gustəv/ (1821–80) a French writer whose best known book is *Madame Bovary*

**flaunt** /flɔːnt/ *v* [T] *derog* to show (oneself or something one is proud of) for public admiration; make (something) too plain: *She was flaunting her new fur coat.* | *I dislike the way he flaunts his success.*

**flau-tist** /'flɔːtɪst/ *n* BrE || **flutist** AmE — *n* someone who plays the FLUTE

**fla-vour**<sup>1</sup> BrE || **flavor** AmE /'fleɪvə/ *n* **1** [C] a taste; a quality that only the tongue can experience: *This dish has a strong flavour of cheese.* | *Choose from six popular flavours!* **2** [U] the quality of tasting good or pleasantly strong: *This bread hasn't much flavour/has plenty of flavour.* **3** [S] a particular quality or character: *This newspaper has a sporting flavour.* **4 flavour of the month** the idea, plan, person, etc., which is the most popular at present **5 -flavoured** /'fleɪvəd/ *adj* having the stated flavour: *strawberry-flavoured ice cream* — **less** *adj*

**flavour**<sup>2</sup> BrE || **flavor** AmE — *v* [T (with)] to give flavour to: *She flavoured the cake with chocolate.*

**fla-vour-ing** BrE || **flavoring** AmE /'fleɪvərɪŋ/ *n* [C;U] something added to food to give or improve the flavour: *All their products are free from artificial colourings and flavourings.*

**flaw**<sup>1</sup> /flɔː/ *n* [(in)] a fault or weakness that makes something not perfect: *The flaw in this stamp makes it less valuable.* | *Your argument has one fatal flaw.*

**flaw**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T] to make a flaw in: *The scar flawed her beauty.* | *a flawed masterpiece*

**flaw-less** /'flɔːləs/ *adj* perfect; with no flaw: *a flawless gem* | *a flawless performance* — **ly** *adv*

**flax** /flæks/ *n* [U] **1** a plant with blue flowers, that is grown for its stem and oily seeds **2** the thread made from the stems of this plant, used for making LINEN

**flax-en** /'flæksən/ *adj* *esp. lit* (of hair) pale yellow

**flay** /fleɪ/ *v* [T] **1** to remove the skin from: *They flayed the dead horse.* **2** *lit* to whip violently **3** to attack severely in words: *The newspapers really flayed him.*

**flea** /fliː/ *n* **1** a small jumping insect without wings that feeds on the blood of humans and animals — see picture at INSECT **2** a 'flea in one's ear' *infml* a short severe scolding (SCOLD), *esp.* that makes one feel foolish: *He tried to kiss her, but she sent him off with a flea in his ear.*

**flea-bag** /'fliːbæg/ *n* **1** *esp. BrE* a dirty disliked person or animal: *She loves her cat, but nobody else can bear the old fleabag.* **2** *esp. AmE* a cheap dirty hotel

**flea-bite** /'fliːbaɪt/ *n* **1** the bite of a flea **2** *esp. BrE* a small problem or cost: *I lost £5 at the races, but that's only a fleabite.*

**flea col-lar** /'fliːkɒlər/ *n* a collar worn by a cat or a dog which

contains special chemicals to keep fleas away from the animal

**flea mar-ket** /'fliːmɑːkɪt/ *n* a market usu. in the street, where old or used goods are sold

**flea-pit** /'fliːpɪt/ *n* BrE *infml* humor a cheap dirty cinema or theatre

**fleck**<sup>1</sup> /flek/ *n* [(of)] a small mark or spot; a grain: *She wore a brown blouse with flecks of red.* | *flecks of dust*

**fleck**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T (with) often pass.] to mark or cover with flecks: *The grass under the trees was flecked with sunlight.*

**fledg-ling**, **fledgeling** /'fledʒlɪŋ/ *n* a young bird that has developed wing feathers and is learning to fly: (fig.) *the fledgling (=new or young) republic*

**flee** /fliː/ *v* **fled** /fled/ [I;T] *esp. lit* to escape (from) by hurrying away, *esp.* because one is afraid: *The spectators fled in panic when the bull got loose.* | *We were forced to flee the country.* (=go abroad for safety)

**fleece**<sup>1</sup> /fliːs/ *n* a sheep's woolly coat — see also GOLDEN FLEECE

**fleece**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T] *infml* to rob by a trick; charge too much money: *They really fleeced us at that hotel!*

**fleec-y** /'fliːsi/ *adj* (seeming) woolly like a fleece: *a fleecy nightgown*

**fleet**<sup>1</sup> /fliːt/ *n* [C+sing./pl. v] **1** a number of ships under one command, such as warships in the navy **2** a group of buses, aircraft, etc., under one control

**fleet**<sup>2</sup> *adj* *lit* fast; quick: *a fleet-footed runner* — **ness** *n* [U]

**fleet ad-mi-ral** /'fliːtəd-mɪrəl/ *n* a rank in the US navy — see TABLE 3

**fleet-ing** /'fliːtɪŋ/ *adj* passing quickly; not lasting long: *The fans caught a fleeting glimpse of their idol as he ran into the waiting car.* — **ly** *adv*

**Fleet Air Arm** /'fliːtəɪə/ [the] the branch of the British navy that used to look after and fly naval aircraft

**Fleet Street** /'fliːt/ **1** the area in London where most of the important newspaper offices used to be. Although most newspaper offices have now left Fleet Street, the name is still used to describe the newspaper industry: *Fleet Street was buzzing with excitement at the thought of a general election.* **2** (the influence of) British national newspapers/newspaper writing: *Fleet Street can make or break a politician.*

**Fleet-wood Mac** /'fliːtwud 'mæk/ a popular music group made up of British and American musicians, popular *esp.* in the 1960s and 1970s

**Flem-ing** /'flemɪŋ/, **Sir Al-ex-an-der** /'ælɪg'zɑːndər/ -'zæn- / (1881–1955) Scottish scientist who discovered PENICILLIN

**Fleming, I-an** /'iːzən/ (1908–64) an English writer who wrote the many books about the SECRET AGENT James Bond

**Flem-ish**<sup>1</sup> /'flemɪʃ/ *n* [U] the Germanic language spoken in N Belgium

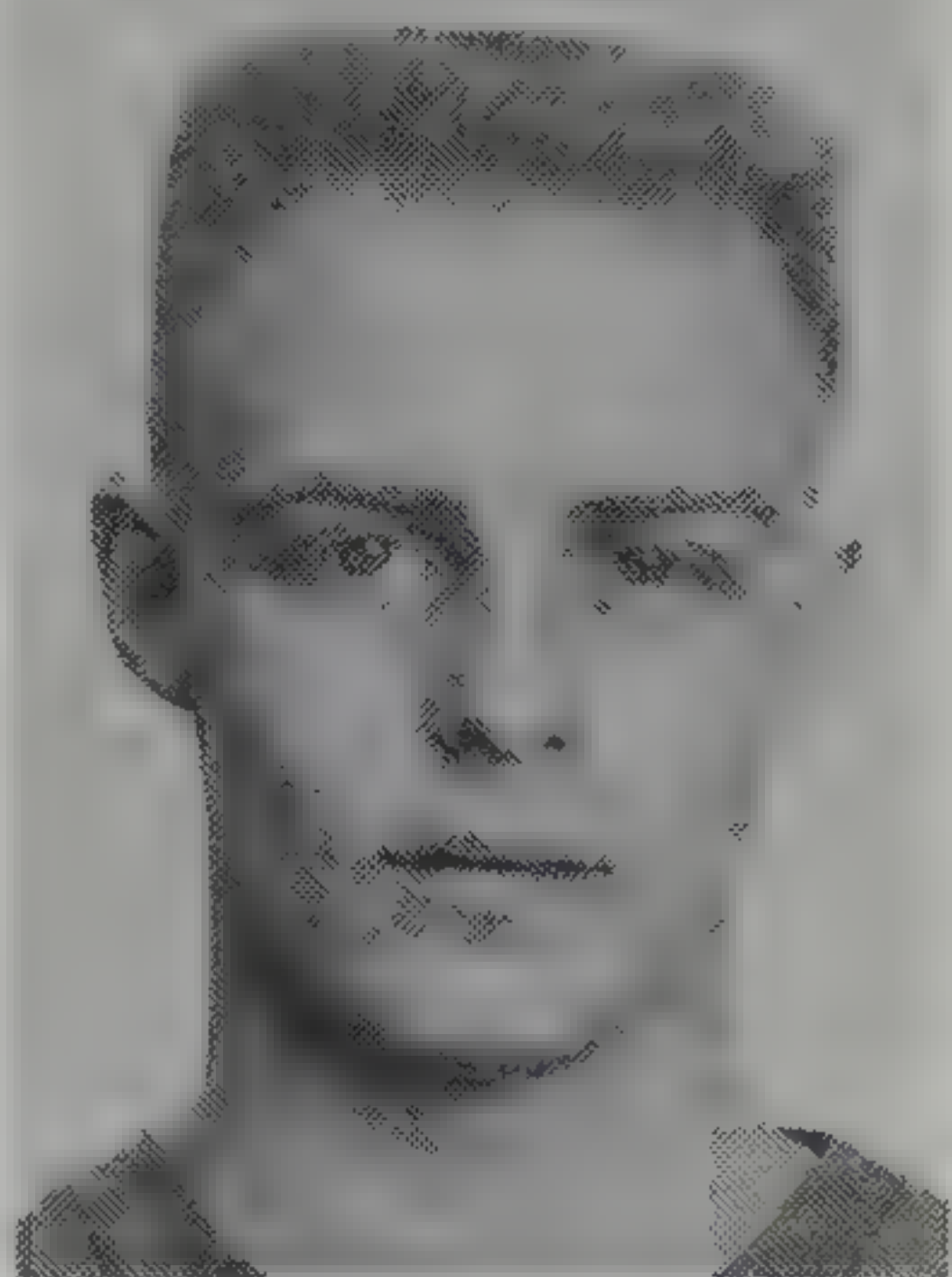
**Flemish**<sup>2</sup> *adj* of or from the part of Belgium where Flemish is spoken

**flesh**<sup>1</sup> /flesh/ *n* **1** [U] the soft part of the body of a person or animal that covers the bones and lies under the skin **2** [U] the soft part of a fruit or vegetable, which can be eaten — see picture at FRUIT **3** [the] the physical human body as opposed to the mind or soul: *His life was devoted to the pleasures of the flesh.* | *The spirit is willing but the flesh is weak.* **4** go the way of all flesh *lit* to die **5** in the flesh in real life; in physical form: *She's even more beautiful in the flesh than in photographs.* **6** make someone's 'flesh creep to shock or frighten, *esp.* in a way that causes unpleasant physical feelings: *The late-night horror movie made my flesh creep.* **7** press the flesh *infml* to shake hands with a large number of people; usu. done by members of the royal family or politicians: *The new Prime Minister was pressing the flesh and chatting to people in the crowd.* **8** (the spirit is willing but) the flesh is weak I would like to do something but my body is not strong enough to do it

**flesh**<sup>2</sup> *v*

**flesh** sthg. ↔ **out** *phr v* [T (with)] to add more substance to: *Try to flesh out your argument (with a few relevant facts).*

**flesh and blood** /'fleshənd'blʊd/ *n* [U] **1** relatives; family: *I must help them — they're my own flesh and blood.* **2** *esp. lit*





human nature: *These sorrows are more than flesh and blood can bear.*

**flesh-coloured** /'flesh- / BrE **flesh-tone** /'flesh- / AmE *adj* of the colour of European people's skin: *a flower with flesh-coloured petals*

**flesh-ly** /'fleshli/ *adj* [A] *lit* physical, esp. sexual: *fleshly desires*

**flesh-pot** /'fleshpɒt/ -pa:t/ *n* [usu. pl.] *usu. humor or derog* a place supplying good food, drink, singing and dancing, etc., esp. a place where people go for sexual pleasure

**flesh wound** /'flesh ,wʊnd/ *n* a wound which does not damage the bones or the important organs of the body

**flesh-y** /'flesh/ *adj* 1 having much flesh; fat: *fleshy cheeks* 2 of or like flesh: *a fleshy texture* — **iness** *n* [U]

**fleur-de-lis**, **fleur-de-lys** /flɜː də 'lɪz, -'liːz/ ,flɜːr də 'liːz/ *n* a pattern formed of three curved parts joined together that is used on COATS OF ARMS

**flew** /fluː/ *past tense* of FLY

**flex**<sup>1</sup> /fleks/ *v* [T] to bend and move (a limb, one's muscles, etc.) so as to stretch and loosen, esp. in preparation for physical exercise or work: *The runners flexed their muscles as they waited for the race to begin.*

**flex**<sup>2</sup> *n* [C;U] *esp. BrE* (a length of) electrical wire enclosed in a protective covering, used for connecting an electrical apparatus to a supply

**flex-i-ble** /'fleksɪbəl/ *n* 1 that can bend or be bent easily 2 that can change or be changed to be suitable for new needs, changed conditions, etc.: *We can visit you on Saturday or Sunday; our plans are fairly flexible.* — opposite **inflexible** — **bly adv** — **bility** /'fleksɪ'bɪlɪti/ *n* [U]

**flexible friend** /'fleksɪbəl frɛnd/ *n* BrE *infml* a CREDIT CARD (from an advertisement for ACCESS® cards, in which the cards were given human characteristics and described as *Your flexible friend*)

**flex-i-time** /'fleksɪtaɪm/ BrE || also **flex-time** /'flekstaɪm/ AmE — *n* [U] a system by which people work a certain number of hours each week or month, but can choose from a usu. limited range of daily starting and finishing times and are sometimes allowed to take time off work once they have completed a certain number of hours: *Do you work flexitime?*

**flib-ber-ti-gib-bet** /flɪbətɪ'dʒɪbɪt/ -bər/ *n* *infml* a silly unsteady person, usu. a woman, who talks too much, etc.

**flick**<sup>1</sup> /flɪk/ *n* a short light sudden blow, or movement with a whip, finger, etc.: *He hit the ball with just a flick of the wrist.* — see also FLICKS, SKIN FLICK

**flick**<sup>2</sup> *v* 1 [I+adv/prep;T] to (cause to) move with a light quick sudden movement: *The snake's tongue flicked from side to side.* | *He flicked the switch.* | *The cow flicked the flies away with its tail.* 2 [T] to strike with a light quick sudden blow from a whip, finger, etc.: *The driver flicked the horse with his whip to make it go faster.*

**flick-er**<sup>1</sup> /'flɪkə/ *v* 1 [I] to burn unsteadily; shine with an unsteady light: *a flickering candle* | (fig.) *The hope still flickered within her that her husband might be alive.* 2 [I;T] to (cause to) move backwards and forwards unsteadily: *Shadows flickered on the wall.* | *flickering eyelids*

**flicker**<sup>2</sup> *n* [S] 1 a flickering movement or light: *We watched the flicker of the firelight on the wall.* 2 a feeling that lasts a very short time: *a flicker of interest/excitement*

**flick knife** /'flɪk naɪf/ BrE || **switchblade** AmE — *n* a knife with a blade inside the handle that springs into position when a button is pressed. Flick knives are connected in people's minds with violent criminals, esp. young men who enjoy fighting.

**flicks** /flɪks/ *n* [the+P] *esp. BrE infml* the cinema

**fli-er**, **flyer** /'flaɪə/ *n* 1 someone or something that flies, esp. a pilot 2 *infml* for FLYING START 3 a LEAFLET which is produced for advertising purposes and is given to people in the street or handed out door-to-door (DOOR)

**flies** /flaɪz/ *n* 1 [P] BrE the front opening of a pair of trousers; FLY<sup>4</sup> (2) 2 [the+P] the large space above a stage from which people control and move the scenes used in a play

**flight**<sup>1</sup> /flaɪt/ *n* 1 [C;U] (an act of) flying: *She photographed the bird in flight.* | *It was the bird's first flight from the nest.* 2 [C] (the distance covered in) a journey through

air or space: *several flights a day from London to New York* | *I've booked you on a direct flight to Paris.* | *The airline provides good in-flight entertainment.* | *Flight BA 447 to Geneva (=the plane making this journey) is now boarding.* | *a charter flight* | *an internal flight (=within one country)* — see also CHARTER FLIGHT 3 [C] a set of stairs between one floor and the next: *She fell down a flight of stairs.* | *He lives two flights up.* 4 [C] a group of birds or aircraft flying together: *a flight of pigeons* 5 [C (of)] an unusually fine performance or effort of imagination: *His entertaining speech contained some amusing flights of fancy.* 6 [U] *esp. lit* fast movement or passage: *the flight of time* 7 *in the first flight esp. BrE* excellent; in a leading place

**flight**<sup>2</sup> *n* [C;U] (an example of) the act of running away or escaping: *Our army will quickly put the enemy to flight.* (=make them run away) | *When the police arrived the thieves took (to) flight (=ran away), leaving the jewels behind.* | (fig.) *The crisis in the country led to a flight of capital abroad.* (=a movement of money out of the country)

**flight at-tend-ant** /'flaɪt ə'tendənt/ *n* AmE a person who looks after the comfort of the passengers in an aircraft during the flight

**flight da-ta re-cord-er** /'flaɪt dɑː rɪkɔːdər/ *n* a FLIGHT RECORDER

**flight deck** /'flaɪt deɪk/ *n* 1 the surface of a ship (AIRCRAFT CARRIER) used for the take-off or landing of military aircraft 2 the room in an aircraft which contains the controls and where the pilot sits

**Flight into E-gypt** /'flaɪt ɪnə 'eɪdʒɪpt/ [the] the story in the Bible, in which Joseph, Mary, and the baby Jesus run away to Egypt to escape from King Herod, who has ordered all male newborn children to be killed — see also HEROD, MASSACRE OF THE INNOCENTS

**flight-less** /'flaɪtləs/ *adj* unable to fly: *a flightless bird*

**flight lieu-ten-ant** /'flaɪt liːtənənt/ *n* a rank in the British airforce — see TABLE 3

**flight path** /'flaɪt paθ/ *n* the (planned) course which a plane, spacecraft, etc., takes

**flight re-cord-er** /'flaɪt rɪkɔːdər/ also **flight data recorder fml**, **black box infml** — *n* a piece of equipment in an aircraft which records the speed at which the aircraft travels, the direction in which it travels, etc. This information is used to explain what has happened if an aircraft crashes.

**flight ser-geant** /'flaɪt sɜːdʒənt/ *n* a rank in the British airforce — see TABLE 3

**flight-y** /'flaɪti/ *adj* (esp. of a woman or a woman's behaviour) unsteady; too influenced by sudden desires or ideas; often changing, esp. from one lover to another — **ily adv** — **iness n** [U]

**flim-flam** /'flɪmflæm/ *v* [T] to trick or deceive for personal gain: *He was going door-to-door flimflamming old ladies.* — **flimflam adj**: *a flimflam man*

**flim-sy** /'flɪmzi/ *adj* 1 (of material) light and thin: *She felt cold in her flimsy dress.* 2 (of an object) easily broken or destroyed; lacking strength: *a flimsy old wooden shed* 3 weak; that does not CONVINCE: *What a flimsy excuse!* — **sily adv** — **siness n** [U]

**flinch** /flɪntʃ/ *v* [I (from)] to move back when shocked by pain, or in fear of something unpleasant; WINCE: *She didn't flinch once when the doctor was cleaning the wound.* | (fig.) *I flinched from telling her the news.*

**fling**<sup>1</sup> /flɪŋ/ *v* **flung** /flʌŋ/ 1 [T+obj+adv/prep] to throw violently or with force, esp. with lack of care for the object that is thrown: *She flung her shoe at the cat.* | *Every morning he flings the windows open and breathes deeply.* | (fig.) *The military government flung its opponents into prison.* 2 [I+adv/prep;T+obj+adv/prep] to move (oneself or part of one's body) quickly or with force: *The two old friends flung their arms round one another in delight.* | *He flung out of the room in a violent rage.* 3 **fling oneself into** to begin to do (something) with great eagerness: *He flung himself into the job with great enthusiasm.* 4 **fling up one's hands in horror** to show signs of being very shocked

**fling**<sup>2</sup> *n* [S] 1 an occasion or period of enjoying oneself, often with no sense of responsibility: *Let's have a fling and eat at that expensive restaurant for a change.* | *a final fling before getting married* 2 **have a fling (at)** to make an attempt (at) — see also HIGHLAND FLING



**flint** /flɪnt/ *n* 1 [C;U] (a piece of) very hard grey stone that makes small flashes of flame when struck against steel 2 [C] a small piece of iron or other metal that makes a small flash of flame when struck, used in cigarette LIGHTERS to light the gas or petrol — **flinty** *adj*

**flint-lock** /'flɪntlək/ -lə:k/ *n* a type of gun used in former times

**Flintstones** /'flɪntstəʊnz/, **The** a funny American television CARTOON about a family of cavemen (CAVEMAN) and their friends

**flip** /flɪp/ *v* -pp- 1 [T] to send (something) spinning, often into the air, by striking with a light quick blow: *They flipped a coin to decide who would go first.* 2 [I] *sl* also **flip one's lid** — a to become mad or very angry: *My brother really flipped when I told him I'd smashed up his car.* b to become full of excitement and interest: *I knew you'd flip when you saw my new car.* 3 **flip someone the bird** *AmE infml* to flip someone off



The Flintstones

**flip off** *phr v* [T (=flip sbdy. ↔ off)] to move the middle finger upwards in the direction of someone with whom one is angry, in an extremely offensive way; **give someone the finger** (FINGER<sup>1</sup>): *The cabbie flipped off the driver who cut in front of him.*

**flip out** *phr v* [I] *AmE infml* 1 to become very angry: *He flipped out when I told him his car was totalled.* 2 to lose one's mind: *His mother flipped out and had to be institutionalized.*

**flip over** *phr v* [I;T (=flip sthg. ↔ over)] to turn over: *The pages of the magazine flipped over in the breeze.* | *He flipped the egg over in the pan.*

**flip through** sthg. *phr v* [T] to read or look at (a book, paper, etc.) rapidly or carelessly

**flip<sup>2</sup>** *n* 1 [C] a quick light blow, esp. one that sends something spinning into the air: *the flip of a coin* 2 [C] a SOMERSAULT, esp. when performed in the air

**flip<sup>3</sup>** *adj* -pp- *infml* flippant: *a flip remark*

**flip-flop** /'flɪp-ˌflop/ *BrE* || also **thongs** *AmE* — *n* [*usu. pl.*] 1 a type of open shoe (SANDAL), which is *usu.* made of rubber and is held on by the toes and loose at the back — see PAIR (USAGE), and see picture at SHOE 2 *AmE infml* a change of mind: *He has done so many flip-flops no one knows what he really thinks.*

**flip-flop<sup>2</sup>** *v* *AmE infml* [I] to change one's mind: *If he continues to flip-flop on this issue, the decision will be made for him.*

**flip-pant** /'flɪpənt/ *adj* disrespectful about serious subjects, esp. when trying to be amusing: *A hospital is scarcely the place for such flippant remarks about death.* — *~ly* *adv* — **pancy** *n* [U]

**flip-per** /'flɪpə/ *n* 1 a limb of certain large sea animals, esp. SEALS, with a flat edge used for swimming 2 also **fin** *AmE* — a rubber shoe shaped like an animal's flipper, worn when swimming, esp. under water — see PAIR (USAGE)

**Flipper** an American television show of the early 1960s which was about a friendly DOLPHIN

**flip-ping** /'flɪpɪŋ/ *adj, adv* [A] *BrE euph sl* BLOODY<sup>2</sup>: *Don't be so flipping rude!*

**flip side** /'flɪp saɪd/ *n* [*the*] 1 the side of a record that has a song or piece of music on that is of less interest or less popular than that on the other side 2 the opposite, usually bad, side of a question or situation: *The flip side is that it may cause more pollution.*

**flirt** /flɜːt/ -t/ *v* [I (with)] to behave with a member of the opposite sex in a way that attracts (sexual) interest and attention: *I don't like going to parties because my husband always flirts with every woman in the room.*

**flirt with** sthg. *phr v* [T *no pass.*] 1 to think about, but not very seriously: *I've been flirting with the idea of changing my job, but I probably won't.* 2 to risk, esp. needlessly or lightly: *Bullfighters regularly flirt with death.*

**flirt<sup>2</sup>** *n* *usu. derog* a person, esp. a woman, who regularly flirts with members of the opposite sex

**flir-ta-tion** /flɜː'teɪʃən/ -r-/ *n* 1 [U] the act of flirting 2 [C] a short love affair which is not serious 3 [C (with)] a passing interest in or connection with something: *After a brief flirtation with ancient languages, she finally settled on history as her subject of study.*

**flir-ta-tious** /flɜː'teɪʃəs/ -r-/ *adj* tending to flirt: *a flirtatious young girl* | *He had a flirtatious twinkle in his eye.* — *~ly* *adv* — *~ness* *n* [U]

**flit** /flɪt/ *v* -tt- [I+*adv*/prep] to fly or move lightly or quickly: *The birds flitted (about) from branch to branch.* — see also MOONLIGHT FLIT

**float** /fləʊt/ *v* 1 [I;T] to (cause to) stay on the surface of a liquid without sinking: *Does this type of wood float?* | *We are trying to float the sunken ship.* 2 [I+*adv*/prep; T+obj+*adv*/prep] to (cause to) move easily and lightly as on moving liquid or air: *The logs floated down the river.* | *We floated the canoe out into the middle of the river.* 3 [I+*adv*/prep] to move aimlessly from place to place; **DRIFT**: *The old man floats from town to town with nowhere to go and nothing to do.* 4 [T] to suggest; offer for consideration: *The idea was first floated before the war.* 5 [T] to establish (a business, company, etc.) by selling shares — see also FLOTATION 6 [I;T] to (allow to) vary freely in value against other countries' money from day to day: *It was decided to float the pound because having a fixed value was damaging exports.* 7 [T] *AmE* to write (a cheque) which one does not have enough money in the bank to pay: *He personally floated cheques worth \$56,000.* — *~er* *n*

**float<sup>2</sup>** *n* 1 something that floats, esp. a piece of wood or other light object used on a fishing line or to support the edge of a fishing net — see also DEAD-MAN'S FLOAT 2 *AmE* (*usu. in comb.*) a drink with ICE CREAM floating in it: *I'll have a coke float please.* | *a root-beer float* 3 a large flat vehicle on which special shows, decorative scenes, etc., are drawn in processions — see also MILK FLOAT 4 a sum of money provided for giving change, etc.: *The sales reps in this company have floats for their travelling expenses.*

**flor-ta-tion** /fləʊ'teɪʃən/ *n* [C;U] FLOTATION

**float-ing** /'fləʊtɪŋ/ *adj* 1 not fixed or settled in a particular place: *London has a large floating population.* 2 *tech* (of a bodily part) not properly connected or not in the usual place: *a floating rib/kidney*

**floating cap-i-tal** /'fləʊtɪŋ ˈkæpɪtəl/ also **circulating capital** — *n* [U] money available for carrying on a business, e.g. goods available for sale, the money the business has, and money owed to the business

**floating vot-er** /'fləʊtɪŋ ˈvɒtə/ *n* someone who does not necessarily vote for the same political party at each election

**flock** /flɒk/ -k/ *n* [C+*sing.*/pl. *v*] 1 a group of sheep, goats, or birds — compare HERD<sup>1</sup> (1) 2 [+of] *infml* a crowd; large number of people: *a flock of tourists* 3 the group of people who regularly attend a church: *The priest warned his flock against breaking God's law.*

**flock<sup>2</sup>** *v* [I+*adv*/prep] to gather or move in large numbers: *People are flocking to the cinema to see the new film.*

**flock<sup>3</sup>** *n* [U] 1 small pieces of wool, cotton, etc., used for filling CUSHIONS, etc. 2 soft material that forms decorative patterns on the surface of wallpaper, curtains, etc.

**Flod-den** /'flɒdn/ -dn/ a hillside in Northumberland, England, where a battle took place in 1513 between the Scots and the English. King James IV of Scotland and many men were killed.

**floe** /fləʊ/ *n* a large mass of ice floating on the surface of the sea

**flog** /flɒg/ -g/ *v* -gg- [T] 1 to beat severely with a whip or stick, esp. as a punishment 2 *BrE infml* to sell: *He makes a living flogging encyclopedias.* 3 **flog a dead horse** *infml* to waste time or effort by returning to a subject or argument which has already been settled: *You'll just be flogging a dead horse if you try to make her change her mind about it.* 4 **flog to death** *infml* to spoil (a story, request, idea, etc.) by repeating too often

**flog-ging** /'flɒgɪŋ/ -gɪŋ/ *n* [C;U] (a) severe beating with a whip or stick, esp. as punishment

**Flo-Jo** /'fləʊ dʒəʊ/ (1959– ) an American runner whose full name is Florence Griffith Joyner. She won several



Olympic gold MEDALS, and was known esp. for her fashionable appearance and clothes and her long finger nails.

**flood**<sup>1</sup> /flʌd/ also **floods** *pl.* — *n* 1 the covering with water of a place that is usu. dry; a great overflow of water: *The town was destroyed by the floods after the storm.* | *The water rose to flood level.* | *The river was in flood.* (=overflowing) 2 a large quantity or flow: *There was a flood of complaints about the bad language after the show.* | *She was in floods of tears.*

**flood**<sup>2</sup> *v* 1 [I;T] to (cause to) be filled or covered with water: *Every spring the river floods the valley.* | *Our street floods whenever we have rain.* 2 [I] to overflow: *After such a storm I'm surprised the river hasn't flooded.* 3 [I+adv/prep;T] to go or arrive (at) in large numbers: *Requests for information flooded in after the advertisement.* | *Settlers flooded from Europe to America in the 19th century.* | *After the show, complaints flooded the television company's offices.* 4 [I+adv/prep;T] to cover or spread into completely; OVERFLOW: *The room was flooded with light.* | *Apples flooded the market* (=were for sale in large numbers), *so their price went down.*

**flood** *sbdy.* ↔ **out** *phr v* [T *usu. pass.*] to force to leave home because of floods: *Most of the people who were flooded out during the storm have now returned home.*

**Flood** [*the*] 1 the story told in the Bible of a great flood that covered the whole world. According to the story, God caused the Flood because he was angry at the wickedness of people on Earth and wanted to punish them. He made it rain for 40 days and 40 nights, and most of the people and animals on Earth were killed. Only one man, Noah, and his family were saved. God told them to build a large boat (ARK) and to save two of every kind of animal. When the Flood was going down Noah sent out a DOVE to look for land, and it returned carrying an OLIVE BRANCH to show that the land was reappearing. —see also ARK, OLIVE BRANCH 2 **before the Flood** *infml* a very long time ago

**flood-gate** /'flʌdɡeɪt/ also **floodgates** *pl.* — *n* 1 a gate used for controlling the flow from a large body of water 2 **open the floodgates** to allow feelings to be suddenly expressed or action suddenly taken after being (forcibly) held back: *The new law opened the floodgates as many more people suddenly applied for government aid.*

**flood-light**<sup>1</sup> /'flʌdlaɪt/ *n* (a large electric light that produces) a very powerful and bright beam of light, used for lighting the outside of buildings, football grounds, etc., at night

**floodlight**<sup>2</sup> *v* -**lighted** or -**lit** /lɪt/ [T] to light by using floodlights: *Buckingham Palace is floodlit at night.*

**flood plain** /'flʌdˌpleɪn/ *n* the usu. flat areas of land on either side of a river which are (regularly) covered with water when the level of the river rises: *the flood plain of the Ganges*

**flood tide** /'flʌdˌtaɪd/ *n* the flow of the TIDE inwards; rising tide —opposite **ebb tide**

**floor**<sup>1</sup> /flɔːr/ *n* 1 [C] the surface on which one stands indoors; surface nearest the ground: *I must sweep the kitchen floor.* | *A dance floor is a level area specially prepared for dancing.* —see LAND (USAGE) 2 [C] a level of a building; STOREY: *Our office is on the sixth floor.* | *The third floor* (=the people who live or work there) *are having a Christmas party tomorrow.* —see USAGE 3 [*the (of)*] the bottom of the sea, a CAVE, etc.: *the ocean floor* 4 [*the*] the part of a parliament, council building, public meeting place, etc., where those attending sit: *The member for Brighton has the floor.* (=has the right to speak, so others must not interrupt) | *After the visiting speaker has finished, I shall ask for questions from the floor.* (=from those listening) 5 **go through the floor** *infml* (of a price) to sink to a very low level 6 **take the floor**

Flo-Jo



to start dancing at a party, in a dance hall, etc. —see also SHOP FLOOR, **wipe the floor with** (WIPE<sup>1</sup>)

▷ **USAGE** In American English the bottom floor of a building (at ground level) is called the **first floor**. In British English this is called the **ground floor**. The next level up is called the **second floor** in American English and the **first floor** in British English. ◁

**floor**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T] 1 to provide with a floor: *The room was floored with tiles.* 2 *infml* to knock down: *The soldier floored his attacker with one heavy blow.* | (fig.) *The news really floored me; I hadn't been expecting it at all.* 3 *infml* to beat; defeat: *I was floored by his argument and had to admit defeat.*

**floor-board** /'flɔːbɔːd/ || 'flɔːrbɔːrd/ *n* a board in a wooden floor

**floor cloth** /'flɔːˌklɒθ/ *n* esp. BrE a piece of cloth used for washing or cleaning floors

**floor cover-ing** /'flɔːˌkʌvərɪŋ/ *n* [C;U] something used to cover a floor, e.g. CARPET: *We'll need some sort of floor covering.*

**floor-ing** /'flɔːrɪŋ/ *n* [U] material used for making floors: *wooden flooring*

**floor lamp** /'flɔːˌlæmp/ *n* AmE for STANDARD LAMP —see pictures at LIGHT and LIVING ROOM

**floor lead-er** /'flɔːˌliːdər/ *n* a leader in the House of Representatives or Senate who is elected by the members of his political party. Floor leaders help arrange the timetable and work to pass bills that are important to their party.

**floor mod-el** /'flɔːˌmɒdəl/ || also **floor sample** AmE — *n* an electrical APPLIANCE for the home such as a washing machine or piece of furniture which has been on show in a shop and is often sold at a cheaper price

**floor show** /'flɔːˌʃoʊ/ *n* a number of acts (such as dancing, singing, etc.) performed in a restaurant, NIGHTCLUB, etc.

**floor-walk-er** /'flɔːˌwɔːkər/ || 'flɔːr-/ *n* esp. AmE for SHOPWALKER

**floo-zy**, -**zie**, -**sie** /'fluːzi/ *n* old-fash derog sl a girl or woman who is, or appears to be, sexually immoral

**flop**<sup>1</sup> /flɒp/ || flʌp/ *v* -**pp** -[I] 1 [+adv/prep] to move or fall in a loose, heavy, or awkward way: *She flopped down exhausted in an armchair.* 2 *infml* (of a plan, performance, etc.) to fail; be unsuccessful: *The new play flopped and was taken off Broadway after a week.*

**flop**<sup>2</sup> *n* 1 [S] the movement or noise of flopping: *He fell with a flop into the water.* 2 [C] *infml* a failure: *The party was a complete flop.* —see also BELLY FLOP

**flop-house** /'flɒphaʊs/ || 'flʌp-/ *n* -**houses** /,haʊzɪz/ AmE sl a cheap hotel

**flop-py**<sup>1</sup> /'flɒpi/ || 'flʌpi/ *adj* soft and falling loosely: *a floppy hat* —**pily** *adv* —**piness** *n* [U]

**floppy**<sup>2</sup> *n* a floppy disk

**floppy disk** /,flɒpiˌdɪsk/ || 'flʌpi-/ *n* a piece of bendable plastic with a thin coat of a MAGNETIC substance on which information for a computer can be stored —compare HARD DISK, and see picture at COMPUTER

**Flop-sy** /'flɒpsi/ || 'flʌp-/ a rabbit character in several stories for children by Beatrix Potter: *Flopsy, Mopsy, Cottontail and Peter*

**flora** /'flɔːrə/ *n* [C;U] all the plants of a particular place, country, or period: *the flora of chalk areas* | *stone-age flora* —compare FAUNA

**Flora** *n* tdmk [U] a kind of MARGARINE available in Britain

**floral** /'flɔːrəl/ *adj* of flowers: *He chose a nice material with a floral pattern for the curtains.*

**Flor-ence** /'flɒrəns/ || 'flɔːr-/ a city in central Italy, famous for its art and ARCHITECTURE

**flor-id** /'flɒrɪd/ || 'flɔːr-, 'flʌr-/ *adj* 1 often derog too much decoration; (too) showy: *He played the piece in a very florid style, with lots of extra ornamental flourishes.* 2 having a red face: *a florid complexion* —**ly** *adv*

**Flor-i-da** /'flɒrɪdə/ || 'flɔːr-/ *written abbrev.* FL a state in SE US. Florida is known in the US for its good weather all year round, and many older people RETIRE there (=go there to live when they have stopped working). In the spring, many college and university students go to cities near the beaches in Florida for a short holiday. —see colour map on pages 1374–5

**Florida Keys** /,flɒrɪdəˌkeɪs/ || 'flɔːr-/ [*the*+P] a group of small islands and REEFS off the southern coast of Florida, where many



American people go on holiday — see colour map on pages 1374–5

**flor-in** /'flɒrɪn||'flɔ:-, 'flɑ:-/ *n* (in Britain before 1971) a silver-coloured coin worth two SHILLINGS, ten of which made £1 (a pound)

**flor-ist** /'flɒrɪst||'flɔ:-/ *n* a person who owns or works in a shop (florist's) which sells flowers: *He had a dozen red roses sent to his wife from the florist's.*

**Flor-sheim** /'flɔ:-ʃaɪm || 'flɔ:-r-/ *tdmk* an American company which makes good quality shoes, which are often called FLORSHEIMS

**floss**<sup>1</sup> /flɒs||flɑ:s, 'flɔ:s/ *n* [U] fine silk, spun (SPIN) but not twisted, used for sewing, etc. — see also CANDYFLOSS, DENTAL FLOSS

**floss**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T] *AmE* to clean (one's teeth) with DENTAL FLOSS

**flo-ta-tion**, **flor-a-** /fləʊ'teɪʃən/ *n* [C;U] an act or the action of getting money or other support in order to start up a business company: *a share flotation*

**flot-til-la** /flə'tɪlə||fləʊ-/ *n* a group of small ships, esp. warships

**flot-sam** /'flɒtsəm||'flɑ:-/ *n* [U] broken pieces of wood, plastic, and other waste materials from a shipwreck floating about together in the sea, or washed up onto the shore — compare JETSAM

**flotsam and jet-sam** /,flɒtsəm . 'dʒet-/ *n* 1 [U] a collection of broken unwanted things lying about in an untidy way 2 [P] people without homes or work, who move helplessly through life: *the flotsam and jetsam of society*

**flounce**<sup>1</sup> /flaʊns/ *v* [I+adv|prep] to move violently, esp. to express anger or attract attention: *She slapped him on the face and flounced off in a huff.*

**flounce**<sup>2</sup> *n* a band of cloth gathered and sewn onto clothing as a decoration, esp. in fashions of former times — **flounced** *adj*: *a flounced skirt*

**floun-der**<sup>1</sup> /'flaʊndə-/ *v* [I] 1 to move about helplessly or with great difficulty, esp. in water, mud, snow, etc.: *The little dog was floundering around in the snow, so I picked it up.* | *The fish floundered on the river bank, struggling to breathe.* 2 to struggle or lose control when speaking or doing something: *When one of his listeners laughed rudely, he lost the thread of his argument and started floundering.*

**flounder**<sup>2</sup> *n* **flounder** or **flounders** a small flat fish, used as food

**flour**<sup>1</sup> /flaʊə-/ *n* [U] powder made by crushing grain, esp. wheat, and used for making bread, pastry, cakes, etc. — see also PLAIN FLOUR, SELF-RAISING FLOUR

**flour**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T] to cover with flour: *Flour the pastry board so that the dough doesn't stick to it.*

**flour-ish**<sup>1</sup> /'flaʊɪʃ||'flɜ:ɪʃ/ *v* 1 [I] to be alive and well; to grow healthily: *Very few plants will flourish without sunlight.* | *"How are the children?" "They're flourishing!"* 2 [I] to be active and successful: *The company has really flourished since we moved our factory to Scotland.* | *Jazz flourished in America in the early part of the century.* | *a flourishing black market* 3 [T] to wave in the hand and so draw attention to (something): *"I've passed my exam!" shouted the boy, flourishing a letter in his mother's face.* — **~ingly** *adv*

**flourish**<sup>2</sup> *n* 1 a showy movement or manner that draws people's attention to one: *He opened the door with a flourish.* 2 a decorative curve in writing 3 a loud showy part of a piece of music, esp. one to mark the entrance of an important person

**flour-mill** /'flaʊə,mɪl||-ər-/ *n* a place where flour is made from grain; MILL

**flour-y** /'flaʊəri/ *adj* 1 covered with flour: *She was making pastry and her hands were floury.* 2 soft and rather powdery: *floury potatoes*

**flout** /flaʊt/ *v* [T] to treat without respect; go against: *No one can flout the rules and get away with it.*

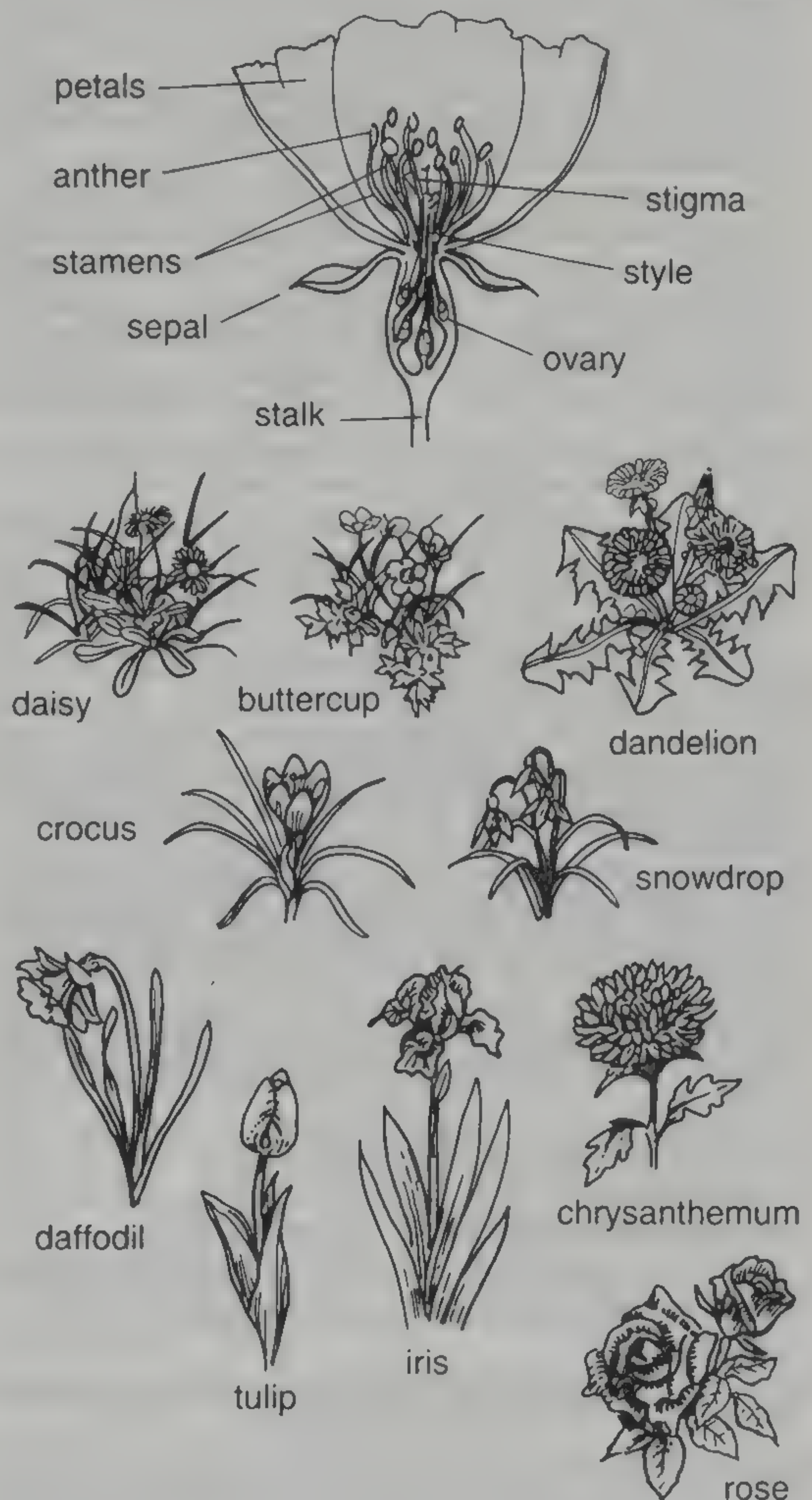
**flow**<sup>1</sup> /fləʊ/ *v* [I] 1 to move smoothly (as if) in a stream: *The river flowed along rapidly.* | *Blood was flowing from his wound.* | *The cars flowed in a steady stream along the main road.* | (fig.) *As they sat around the fire, the conversation began to flow freely.* 2 (of the TIDE) to rise; come in — see also FLOWING

**flow**<sup>2</sup> *n* 1 [S (of)] a smooth steady movement or supply: *He could not staunch the flow of blood.* | *The flow of oil*

*had to be cut off because of the threat of fire.* | *Her questions interrupted his flow of thought.* | *The flow of traffic is always slow at rush hours.* | *His method of treating the disease goes against the flow of (=is in opposition to) current medical opinion.* — see also CASH FLOW — 2 [the (of)] the rise (of the TIDE) — compare EBB<sup>1</sup> (1)

**flow-chart** /'fləʊtʃɑ:t||-ɑ:rt/ also **flow di-a-gram** /'fləʊ ,di-ɑ:-gram/ *n* a drawing in which particular shapes and connecting lines are used for showing how each particular action in a system is connected with or depends on the next or another: *The factory manager used a flowchart to explain the production process.* — **flowchart** *v* [T]

## flowers



**flow-er**<sup>1</sup> /'flaʊə-/ *n* 1 [C] the part of a plant, often beautiful and coloured, that produces seeds or fruit: *There was a vase of flowers on the table.* | *The roses are in flower (=the flowers are open) now.* | *He used to send her huge bouquets of flowers.*

► **CULTURAL NOTE** Flowers are often given to someone as a sign of love, to say thank you to someone, or to say sorry. Flowers are also put on the grave of someone who has died, and are given to people in hospital to make them feel better. ◀

2 [C] a plant that is grown for the beauty of this part: *He grows flowers in the front garden, and vegetables in the back.* 3 [the+of] lit the best part; the most perfect (of a group): *The flower of the nation's youth was lost in the war.* 4 **say it with flowers** a phrase used by sellers of flowers to encourage people to give flowers to others to show their feelings 5 **the flowers that bloom in the spring**, **Tra la** quote a phrase from the OPERA *Mikado* by Gilbert and Sullivan — **~less** *adj*: *Ferns are flowerless plants.*

**flower**<sup>2</sup> *v* [I] 1 (of a plant) to produce flowers: *This bush flowers in the spring.* | *flowering plants* 2 *fml* to be fully



developed; be in its best state: *His genius as a painter flowered very early.*

**flower ar-rang-ing** /'flaʊərɪŋ/ *n* [U] the art of arranging fresh or dried (DRY) flowers in an attractive way. It is usu. done by women, as a HOBBY, and is often taught at evening classes.

**flow-er-bed** /'flaʊəbed/ *n* also **bed**— *n* a piece of prepared ground in which flowers are grown —see picture at HOUSE

**flower child** /'flaʊər ˌtʃɪldrən/ *n* —**children** *AmE* one of the FLOWER PEOPLE

**flow-ered** /'flaʊəd/ *adj* decorated with flower patterns: *flowered dress material*

**flower girl** /'flaʊər ɡɜːl/ *n* 1 *BrE* a girl or woman who sells flowers in a street or market 2 *AmE* a little girl who carries flowers in a wedding procession —compare BRIDESMAID, BEST MAN, MATRON OF HONOUR, PAGE BOY

**flow-er-ing** /'flaʊərɪŋ/ *n* [S] a high point of development: *Many would say the Renaissance saw the finest flowering of European culture.*

**flower peo-ple** /'flaʊər ˌpiːpl/ *BrE* || **flower children** *AmE*— *n* [the+P] young people in the 1960s and 1970s who were in favour of peace, love, and beauty and often carried flowers to show their beliefs. They were known for their long hair, unusual clothes, and use of SOFT DRUGS. In the US, they joined the protests against the Vietnam War and used the phrase "Make Love not War" —see also HIPPIE

**flow-er-pot** /'flaʊəpɒt/ *n* a plastic or clay pot in which plants can be grown —see picture at POT

**Flowerpot Men** /'flaʊər ˌpɒt ˌmen/ *The* two characters in a British television programme for young children popular in the 1960s. The Flowerpot Men were two small men made out of flowerpots who spoke in strange voices and whose names were Bill and Ben. They had a friend called Little Weed, who was a tall flower.

**flower po-wer** /'flaʊər ˌpɒwə/ *n* [U] the beliefs and way of life of the flower people, thought of esp. in connection with certain events or occasions, e.g. the POP music FESTIVAL at Woodstock

**flow-er-y** /'flaʊəri/ *adj* 1 decorated with flowers: *a flowery pattern* 2 usu. *derog* (of speech or writing) full of fanciful words and expressions; not expressed simply and clearly

**flow-ing** /'flaʊɪŋ/ *adj* [A] moving, curving, or hanging gracefully: *The letter was written in flowing handwriting.* — *~ly adv*

**flown** /flaʊn/ *past participle* of FLY

**flow sheet** /'flaʊ ʃiːt/ *n* *AmE* for FLOW CHART

**fl. oz.** *n* written abbrev for: FLUID OUNCE

**flu** /fluː/ also **influenza** *fml*— *n* [U] an infectious disease which is like a bad cold but more serious: *She's in bed with flu.*

**flub** /flʌb/ *v* [I;T] *AmE infml* to make a mistake: *He flubbed his lines.* | *I really flubbed that test.*

**fluc-tu-ate** /'flʌktʃueɪt/ *v* [I] to change continually or frequently: *The price of vegetables fluctuates according to the weather.* | *His feelings fluctuated between excitement and fear.* —**ation** /,flʌktʃu'eɪʃən/ *n* [C;U] (in)

**flue** /fluː/ *n* a metal pipe or tube, esp. in a chimney, through which smoke or heat passes: *The fire won't burn because the flue's blocked up.* —see picture at FIREPLACE

**flu-ent** /'fluːənt/ *adj* 1 [(in)] (of a person) speaking, writing, or playing a musical instrument in an easy smooth manner: *He is fluent in five languages.* 2 (of speech, writing, etc.) expressed readily and without pause: *She speaks fluent English.* — *~ly adv* —**ency** *n* [U] (in)

**fluff** /flʌf/ *n* 1 [U] thin soft hair or feathers; DOWN<sup>6</sup> 2 [U] esp. *BrE* soft light loose waste from woollen or other materials: *The room hasn't been properly cleaned; there's fluff and dust under the furniture.* 3 [C] *infml* an awkward unsuccessful attempt, esp. at acting or at playing a stroke in a game —see also BIT OF FLUFF

**fluff**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T] 1 [(OUT, UP)] to make (something soft) appear larger by shaking or by brushing or pushing upwards: *The bird fluffed (out) its feathers in the sun.* 2 *infml* to do (something) badly or unsuccessfully: *The actress fluffed her lines.* (=forgot what she had to say) | *The cricketer fluffed the catch.* (=dropped the ball he was trying to catch)

**fluff-y** /'flʌfi/ *adj* like or covered with fluff: *a fluffy little kitten* —**iness** *n* [U]

**flu-id**<sup>1</sup> /'fluːɪd/ *adj* 1 having the quality of flowing, like liquids, air, gas, etc.; not solid 2 unsettled; not fixed: *We've only just begun to plan the work, and our ideas on the subject are still fluid.* — **~ity** /fluːɪdɪti/ *n* [U]

**fluid**<sup>2</sup> *n* [C;U] 1 a liquid: *The doctor removed some fluid from her injured knee.* | *He's still very weak, and must be fed fluids only.* 2 *tech* any fluid substance

**fluid ounce** /'fluːɪd ʌʊns/ *n* (a unit of liquid measurement equal to) 0.05 (1/20) of a PINT or 0.0284 of a litre in Britain, and to 0.0626 (1/16) of a pint in the US

**fluke** /fluːk/ *n infml* a piece of accidental good fortune: *He passed his examination by a fluke; he knew very little about his subject.* | *a fluke discovery* —**fluky, -ey** *adj*: *a fluky shot*

**flume** /fluːm/ *n* a sloped channel through which water flows: *The creek is diverted into a concrete flume just above the town.*

**flum-mox** /'flʌmɒks/ *v* [T] *infml* to confuse completely: *She was completely flummoxed by the second question.*

**flung** /flʌŋ/ *past tense & participle* of FLING

**flunk** /flʌŋk/ *v infml, esp. AmE* 1 [I;T] to fail (an examination or study course): *"Did you pass?" "No, I flunked."* | *He flunked chemistry.* 2 [T] to mark the examination answers of (someone) as unsatisfactory: *The teacher flunked her.*

**flunk out** *phr v* [I (of)] *AmE infml* to be dismissed from a school or college for failure: *He flunked out of college but went on to become a successful businessman.*

**flun-key, -ky** /'flʌŋki/ *n* 1 sometimes *derog* a male servant in ceremonial dress 2 *derog* a person who tries to win someone's favour by behaving with too much respect and obedience or by over-praising them: *The princess was always surrounded by flunkys.*

**flu-o-res-cent** /fluə'resənt/ *adj* 1 (of a substance) having the quality of giving out bright white light when electric or other waves are passed through 2 (of lighting) producing light by means of electricity passed through a tube covered with fluorescent material 3 (of colours) very bright and seeming to give out light: *She was wearing a fluorescent pink t-shirt.* —**cence** *n* [U]

**flu-o-ri-date** /'fluərɪdeɪt/ *v* [T] to add fluoride to (a water supply) in order to protect people's teeth —**ation** /,fluərɪ'deɪʃən/ *n* [U]

**flu-o-ride** /'fluərɪd/ *n* [U] a compound of fluorine, esp. one that helps protect teeth against decay, contained in many TOOTHPASTES

**flu-o-rine** /'fluərɪn/ *n* [U] a non-metallic substance, usu. in the form of a poisonous pale greenish-yellow gas

**fluo-ro-car-bon** /,fluərəʊ'kɑːbən/ *n* any chemical which contains the simple substances FLUORINE and CARBON in a particular atomic arrangement. Fluorocarbons are widely used in industry; and their presence in the air is thought to have damaged the OZONE LAYER. —see also CFC

**flur-ry**<sup>1</sup> /'flʌrɪ/ *n* 1 [C] a sudden sharp rush of wind or rain or light fall of snow: *Snow flurries are expected this evening.* 2 [S (of)] sudden confusion or excitement: *A flurry of excitement went round the hall as the party leader came in.*

**flurry**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T often pass.] to confuse; make nervous and uncertain

**flush**<sup>1</sup> /flʌʃ/ *n* 1 [C] an act of cleaning with a sudden flow of liquid, esp. water: *The pipe is blocked; give it a good flush (out).* 2 [C] an apparatus for cleaning a TOILET with a flow of water 3 [S] a red appearance of the face: *The sick boy had an unhealthy flush and breathed with difficulty.* —see also HOT FLUSH 4 [S+of] a sudden feeling of anger, excitement, etc.: *a flush of anger|triumph* 5 *in the first flush of* in the first part of something pleasant: *In the first flush of success he ordered drinks for everybody.* | (euph or humor) *She's no longer in the first flush of youth.* (=is no longer young)

**flush**<sup>2</sup> *v* 1 [T (OUT)] to clean or drive out by a sudden flow of water: *The waste pipe is blocked; try flushing it (out) with hot water.* 2 [I;T] to (cause to) become empty of waste matter by means of a flow of water: *The toilet won't flush; I've tried flushing it several times, but it won't work.* 3 [T+obj+adv/prep] to make (someone) leave a hiding



place: *The police flushed the criminals out of their lair.* | *to flush birds from their hiding places* 4 [I;T usu. pass.] to (cause to) become red in the face: *The young man flushed with embarrassment when his stomach rumbled loudly in the middle of the meeting.* —see also FLUSHED

**flush**<sup>3</sup> *adj* 1 [(with)] exactly on a level (with); even in surface: *These cupboards are flush with the wall.* (=they do not stick out) | *a flush door* 2 [F] *infml* having plenty of money: *He felt very flush on his first payday, and bought drinks for everyone.*

**flush**<sup>4</sup> *adv* [+prep] 1 in a FLUSH<sup>3</sup> (1) way: *The door fits flush into its frame.* 2 *infml* exactly; fully: *I hit him flush on the jaw.*

**flush**<sup>5</sup> *n* (in card games) a set of cards dealt to a person, in which all the cards belong to only one of the four different types (SUITS (2)) —compare RUN<sup>2</sup> (12); see also ROYAL FLUSH

**flushed** /flʌʃt/ *adj* [F+with] excited and eager; filled with pleasure and pride: *The soldiers, flushed with their first success, went on to gain another victory.*

**flus-ter**<sup>1</sup> /'flʌstə/ *v* [T] to cause (someone) to be nervous and confused: *The shouts of the crowd flustered the speaker and he forgot what he was going to say.* | *Take your time; don't get flustered.*

**fluster**<sup>2</sup> *n* [S] a state of being flustered: *I got in an awful fluster at the traffic lights, so I failed my driving test.*

**flute**<sup>1</sup> /flu:t/ *n* a musical instrument of the WOODWIND family, with no REED, played by holding it sideways, and blowing across it —see picture at WOODWIND

**flute**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T] to make long thin inward curves in (something) as a decoration, esp. parallel curves along the whole length of a pillar: *a fluted column* | *a pastry case with fluted edges*

**flut-ing** /'flu:tɪŋ/ also **flutings** *pl.* — *n* [U] a set of hollow curves cut on a surface as decoration: *The plates and dishes of this old dinner set are edged with fluting.*

**flut-ist** /'flu:tɪst/ *n* AmE for FLAUTIST

**flut-ter**<sup>1</sup> /'flʌtə/ *v* 1 [I;T] (of a bird, an insect with large wings, etc.) to move (the wings) quickly and lightly: *The bird fluttered her wings up and down, hoping to frighten the cat away from her eggs.* | *The butterfly fluttered from flower to flower.* 2 [I] (of a thin object) to move by waving quickly and lightly: *The flag fluttered in the wind.* | *The dead leaves fluttered to the ground.* 3 [I;T] to (cause to) move in a quick irregular way: *The boy's heart fluttered with excitement.* | *She fluttered her eyelashes at him.*

**flutter**<sup>2</sup> *n* 1 [S] a fluttering movement: *There was a flutter of wings among the trees.* 2 [S] *infml* an excited condition; state of excited interest: *The news of the Queen's visit to the factory put them in/into a flutter.* 3 [C usu. sing.] *infml*, esp. BrE the risking of a small amount of money; a small BET: *He likes to have a flutter on the horses.* 4 [C] *med* an irregular movement of the heart 5 [U] *tech* a shaking movement that causes a fault in the action of a machine, esp. in the wings of an aircraft or in a machine for playing recorded sound, causing faulty high sounds —compare wow<sup>4</sup>

**flu-vi-al** /'flu:viəl/ *adj* *tech* of, found in, or produced by rivers

**flux** /flʌks/ *n* [U] 1 continual change; condition of not being settled: *Our future plans are very unsettled. Everything's in a state of flux.* 2 a substance added to a metal to help melting, or to help in soldering (SOLDER) two pieces of metal together

**fly**<sup>1</sup> /flaɪ/ *v* **flew** /flu:z/, **flown** /fləʊn/ 1 [I] to move or be moved through the air by means of wings: *Most birds and some insects fly.* | *A bee flew in through the open window.* | *The damaged aircraft was flying on only one engine.* 2 [I;T] to control and guide (an aircraft or similar vehicle) in flight: *He was the first man ever to fly that type of aircraft.* | *She's learning to fly.* (=to be a pilot) 3 [I] to travel by aircraft: *Are you going by train or are you going to fly?* | *He's never flown before.* 4 [T pass. rare] to use (a particular AIRLINE) for travelling by: *I always fly British Airways.* 5 [T] to carry or send (someone or something) in an aircraft: *How many passengers does this airline fly weekly?* | *He's flying his car to Europe.* 6 [T] to cross (a broad stretch of water) by means of flying: *Louis Blériot was the first man to fly the English Channel.* 7 [I] to pass up into or through the air as a result of the wind or some directed force: *The player gave a great kick, and the foot-*

*ball flew across the field.* | *Arrows were flying thick and fast from the fort.* | (fig.) *Angry words were flying as the crowd grew more and more threatening.* 8 [I;T] to (cause to) wave or float in the air while being fixed at one end: *The national flag was flying from its pole.* | *The warship was flying the national flag.* 9 [I] to pass rapidly; hurry; move at speed: *The day has simply flown (by).* | *The train flew past.* | *I'm late; I must fly.* (=leave quickly) 10 [I+adv/prep] to move suddenly and with force: *The window flew open.* | *The head of the hammer was loose, and it flew off the handle.* | (fig.) *He flew into a temper/a rage when I mentioned her name.* 11 [I (from);T] to escape (from); FLEE: *He was forced to fly the country.* | *The thief was flying from justice.* 12 **fly a kite** BrE to say or do something in order to find out what the public opinion about a particular subject is 13 **fly in the face of** to intentionally act in opposition to (what is usual, reasonable, etc.); DEFY: *Such behaviour flies in the face of convention.* 14 **fly off the handle** *infml* to become suddenly and unexpectedly angry 15 **Go fly a kite** AmE Go away and stop being annoying! 16 **knock/send someone/something flying:** a to knock (someone) over or backwards b to cause (something) to move through the air, esp. by hitting it hard 17 **let fly (at):** a to attack with blows or words b to shoot —see also FLYING, FLYING COLOURS as the crow flies (CROW<sup>1</sup>); see DRIVE (USAGE)

**fly at sbdy./sthg.** || also **fly into sbdy./sthg.** AmE— *phr v* [T no pass.] to attack suddenly and violently: *The fierce dog flew at the postman.*

**fly**<sup>2</sup> *v* **flied** [I] (in BASEBALL) to hit a FLY BALL, esp. one that is caught by a player from the other team: *He flies to right field and Smith catches the ball easily.*

**fly out** *phr v* [I] (in BASEBALL) to be put OUT<sup>1</sup> (16) by hitting a FLY BALL which a player from the other team catches: *He flied out to left field.*

**fly**<sup>3</sup> *n* 1 (often in comb.) a small flying insect with two wings, esp. the HOUSEFLY —see picture at INSECT 2 a hook that is made to look like a fly, used for catching fish 3 a FLYSHEET 4 a FLY BALL 5 **fly in the ointment** *infml* something that spoils the perfection of something, makes something less valuable, pleasurable, etc.: *I've been offered a wonderful job — the only fly in the ointment is that the pay is not too good.* 6 **like flies** *infml* in very large numbers: *The plague raged through the city, and people were dying like flies.* 7 **on the fly** AmE *infml* quickly; without stopping: *She ate her sandwiches on the fly.* 8 **there are no flies on someone** BrE *infml* someone is not a fool and cannot be tricked

**fly**<sup>4</sup> *n* 1 a band of strong cloth (CANVAS) over the entrance to a tent, forming a kind of door 2 also **flies** *pl.* BrE—the front opening of a pair of trousers, with a band of cloth on one side to cover the fastenings: *Your fly is undone.* | *He did up his fly buttons.*

**fly**<sup>5</sup> *adj* *old-fash infml*, esp. BrE sharp and clever; not easily tricked

**fly-a-way** /'flaɪəweɪ/ *adj* [A] (esp. of hair) soft and loose and easily falling out of place

**fly ball** /'flaɪbɔːl/ also **fly**— *n* (in BASEBALL) a ball which has been hit into the air: *It's a long fly ball to left field.*

**fly-blown** /'flaɪbləʊn/ *adj* 1 (of meat) containing flies' eggs and so unfit to eat 2 esp. BrE || **flyspecked** esp. AmE—covered with the small spots that are the waste matter of flies: *a dirty flyblown window* 3 *derog* a not pure or bright and new; in a bad condition: *a few flyblown old chairs* b worthless because used many times before: *He always brings out the same flyblown old stories when he makes an after-dinner speech.*

**fly-boy** /'flaɪbɔɪ/ *n* AmE *infml* an AIRFORCE pilot

**fly-by** /'flaɪbaɪ/ *n* -bys AmE 1 for FLYPAST 2 a flight of a SPACECRAFT close to the moon or a star, esp. to collect information 3 a spacecraft that makes a flyby

**fly-by-night** /'flaɪbaɪnaɪt/ *adj* [A] *derog* not firmly established in business, but interested only in making quick profits, esp. by slightly dishonest methods

**fly-catch-er** /'flaɪkætʃə/ *n* a small bird that catches flies in the air

**fly drive** /'flaɪdraɪv/ *adj* (of a holiday) by plane and then with a car available for one's use: *We're taking a fly drive holiday to Italy this year.*

**fly-er** /'flaɪə/ *n* a FLIER



**fly-fish-ing** /'flaɪ-ɪŋ/ *n* [U] the practice of fishing in a river or lake with a FLY<sup>2</sup> (2)

**fly half** /,flaɪ ˈhɑːf/ also **standoff half**— *n* (in RUGBY) a fast-running player whose job is to pass the ball out to the line of players who will try to gain points with it

**fly-ing**<sup>1</sup> /'flaɪ-ɪŋ/ *adj* [A] 1 (of a jump) made after running: *The stream was several feet wide, but she took a flying leap and got safely across.* 2 lasting a very short time: *It's just a flying visit; we can't stay long.*

**flying**<sup>2</sup> *n* [U] travelling by aircraft, as a means of getting from one place to another or as a sport: *I don't like flying; it makes me feel sick.* | *a flying club*

**flying boat** /'flaɪ-ɪŋ/ *n* an aircraft with an underside shaped like the bottom of a boat, able to land on water

**flying buttress** /,flaɪ ˈbʊtrəs/ *n* a half arch joined at the top to the outside wall of a large building (such as a church, a castle, etc.), used for supporting the weight of the wall

**flying colours** /,flaɪ ˈkɒləz/ *n* with **flying colours** very successfully; splendidly: *He passed his exams with flying colours.*

**flying doctor** /,flaɪ ˈdɒktə/ *n* (often *cap.*) (esp. in Australia) a doctor who goes by aircraft to visit the sick in distant lonely places, in answer to radio messages

**Flying Dutchman** /,flaɪ ˈdʌtʃmən/, **The** *n* a GHOST ship which, in stories, appears in stormy weather and warns of terrible events to come

**flying fish** /,flaɪ ˈfɪʃ/ *n* a tropical sea fish that can jump out of the water and move forward supported by long wing-like parts (FINS)

**flying fox** /,flaɪ ˈfɒks/ *n* a FRUIT BAT

**flying officer** /'flaɪ ˌɒfɪsə/ *n* a rank in the British airforce — see TABLE 3

**flying pick-et** /,flaɪ ˈpɪkət/ *n* in Britain, someone who PICKETS a place of work other than their own, esp. as part of a group that travels from place to place. The Conservative government of Margaret Thatcher (1979–91) introduced laws in Britain, limiting the powers of TRADE UNIONS which included making the use of flying pickets ILLEGAL.

**flying saucer** /,flaɪ ˈsəʊsə/ *n* a usu. plate-shaped spaceship which is said to be piloted by creatures from another world. Not many people believe in flying saucers, but they often appear in children's stories and in SCIENCE FICTION. —see also UFO and see picture at SPACESHIP

**Flying Scotsman** /,flaɪ ˈskɒtsmən/, **The** a fast train that runs between London and Edinburgh

**flying squad** /'flaɪ ˌskwəd/ *n* [C+*sing./pl. v*] (often *cap.*) in Britain, a group of special police who are always ready for quick action when a serious crime takes place

**flying start** /,flaɪ ˈstɑːt/ *n* [S] 1 a a start to a race in which the competitors are already moving when they cross the starting line or receive the starting signal **b** also **flier infml**— a start to a race in which one competitor begins to move before the others and so gains an unfair advantage over them 2 a very good beginning: *He's got off to a flying start in his new job.*

**fly-leaf** /'flaɪlɪf/ *n* -leaves /lɪvz/ a page on which there is usu. no printing, at the beginning or end of a book, fastened to the cover

**Fly-mo** /'flaɪməʊ/ *tdmk* a type of LAWNMOWER with a ROTARY blade which is held a little way above the ground by a current of air forced from beneath it

**Flynn** /flɪn/, **Er-rol** /'erəl/ (1909–59) an Australian-born American actor who often played the part of an active and physically strong man: *Siegfried runs down the aisle and Roy trapezes in overhead like Errol Flynn.*

**fly-o-ver** /'flaɪ-əʊvə/ *n* 1 *BrE* || **overpass** *AmE*— a place where two roads or railways cross each other at different levels 2 *AmE* a flypast

**fly-pa-per** /'flaɪ,peɪpə/ *n* [U] a length of paper covered with a sticky or poisonous substance to trap flies in a room

**fly-past** /'flaɪpɑːst/-pæst/ *BrE* || **flyby**, **flyover** *AmE*—

*n* the actions of a group of aircraft flying in a special formation on a ceremonial occasion, esp. at a low level in front of a crowd

**fly-sheet** /'flaɪʃi:t/ also **fly**— *n* an additional sheet that is put over a tent for protection from rain or sun

**fly-specked** /'flaɪspekt/ *adj* esp. *AmE* for FLYBLOWN (2)

**fly-swat-ter** /'flaɪ,swɒtə/ || -swaɪ-/ *n* an instrument for killing flies, usu. made of a flat square piece of plastic or wire net fixed to a handle

**fly-weight** /'flaɪweɪt/ *n* a BOXER (1) of the lightest class, weighing 112 POUNDS (51 kilos) or less —see also BANTAMWEIGHT

**fly-wheel** /'flaɪwi:l/ *n* a wheel which, because of its heavy weight, keeps a machine working at an even speed

**fly-whisk** /'flaɪ,wɪsk/ *n* *BrE* a bunch of long horse hairs fastened to a handle, used for keeping flies away from the face

**FM** /,ef 'em-/ *n* [U] frequency modulation; a system of broadcasting, usu. on VHF, in which the electric signal that carries the sound waves has a wave that is always of the same strength but comes at a varying number of times per second, and provides very clear words and music for the listener: *an FM radio* —compare AM

► **CULTURAL NOTE** In the US, FM radio stations are thought to have better quality programmes and fewer COMMERCIALS. ◀

**Fo** /fəʊ/, **Dar-i-o** /'dæriəʊ/ (1926– ) an Italian actor and writer for the theatre, well-known for his plays which are very funny but deal with serious social and political events, e.g. *Accidental Death of an Anarchist* and *Can't Pay, Won't Pay*

**foal**<sup>1</sup> /fəʊl/ *n* a young animal of the horse family

**foal**<sup>2</sup> *v* [I] to give birth to a foal

**foam**<sup>1</sup> /fəʊm/ *n* [U] 1 a whitish mass of very small bubbles on the surface of a liquid, on skin, etc.: *foam-flecked waves* | *He complained to the barman about the amount of foam on his beer.* | *Many fire extinguishers are filled with chemical foam.* 2 *infml* foam rubber: *a foam mattress* —**foamy** *adj*

**foam**<sup>2</sup> *v* [I] to produce foam: *The dying animal was found foaming at the mouth.* | (fig.) *He could hardly speak; he was foaming with anger.* (=was very angry)

**foam rub-ber** /,fəʊ ˈrʌbər/ *n* [U] soft rubber full of air bubbles, used for making chair seats, the soft part of beds, etc.

**fob**<sup>1</sup> /fɒb/ || fə:b/ *v* -bb-

**fob** sthg./sbdy. ↔ **off** *phr v* [T] to wave aside; take no notice of: *He took no notice of our suggestions; he fobbed them/us off and talked of something else.*

**fob** sthg. ↔ **off on** sbdy. *phr v* [T] to pass or sell to, esp. by deceit: *He fobbed this painting off on me as a genuine Renoir, but I later found out it was a fake.* —compare PALM off (1)

**fob** sbdy. **off with** sthg. *phr v* [T] to persuade into accepting (something worthless), esp. by deceit: *The salesman fobbed the old lady off with a faulty machine.* | *Don't try and fob me off with that feeble excuse again!* —compare PALM off (2)

**fob**<sup>2</sup> *n* 1 also **fob chain** /'fɒb-/ a short chain or band of cloth to which a FOB WATCH is fastened 2 a small decorative TAG<sup>1</sup> (1) fixed to a key ring

**FOB** /,ef əʊ 'biː/ *adj* free on board; with no charge for delivery at the stated place: *All the new car prices are quoted FOB Detroit.*

**fob watch** /'fɒb-/ *n* a watch that fits into a pocket, or is pinned to a woman's dress

**fo-cal** /'fəʊkəl/ *adj* [A] of a focus

**focal length** /,fləʊkəl/ *n* [(the) (of)] the distance from the middle of a piece of glass (LENS) that collects light into one beam, to its focus

**focal point** /'fləʊkəl/ *n* [(the) (of)] a central point; FOCUS: *The fireplace is the focal point of the room.*

**fo'c'sle** /'fəʊksəl/ *BrE* || **forecastle** *AmE*— *n* the front part of a ship, where the sailors live

**fo-cus**<sup>1</sup> /'fəʊkəs/ *n* -cuses or -ci /kaɪ, saɪ/ 1 [C] the point at which beams of light or heat or waves of sound meet after their direction has been changed (e.g. by REFLECTION) 2 [(the) (of)] a centre of attention, activity, or interest: *She always wants to be the focus of attention.* | *The*

Errol Flynn  
as Robin Hood





new union will provide a focus for discontented teachers.  
**3 in(to)/out of focus** (not) having, giving, or being a clear picture: *This photo of John isn't in focus; I can't see his face clearly.*

**focus**<sup>2</sup> *v* -s- or -ss- **1** [I;T (on)] to come to or bring to a focus: *The beams of light moved across the sky and focused on the aircraft.* | *All eyes were focused on him.* (=Everyone was looking at him.) **2** [I;T (on)] to direct (one's attention) to something: *Focus your attention on your work.* | *Today we're going to focus on the question of homeless people.* | *He was very tired and couldn't focus* (=he couldn't give his full attention) *at all.* **3** [T (on)] to arrange the LENS in (an instrument) so as to obtain a clear picture (of): *The astronomer focused his telescope (on the moon).*

**fod·der** /'fɒdə/ <sup>1</sup>'fɑː-/ *n* [U] **1** food for horses and farm animals **2** *derog* things or people used for supplying a continuous demand of the stated kind: *"We are just factory fodder," complained the workers.* —see also CANNON FODDER

**foe** /fəʊ/ *n* *lit* an enemy

**FoE** /'ef əʊ 'iː/ *abbrev. for:* FRIENDS OF THE EARTH

**foetal po·si·tion** /'fəʊl - ˌpəʊ-/ [*the*] the body position of an unborn child inside the mother, in which the legs are drawn up against the chest

**foe·tus**, **fetus** /'fɪtəs/ *n* a young human or other creature before birth, esp. at a later stage when all its parts have been developed —compare EMBRYO (1) —**tal** *adj*

**fog**<sup>1</sup> /fɒg/ <sup>1</sup>'fɑːg, 'fɔːg/ *n* [C;U] **1** (a state or time of) very thick mist: *There are patches of thick fog on the motorway.* | *We often have bad fogs on the south coast during winter.* **2** mistiness on a photographic plate or film, or on a print from such a film **3** *in a fog* *infml* in a confused and uncertain state of mind: *My son's in a complete fog about his science lesson; he has no idea at all what it means.*

**fog**<sup>2</sup> *v* -gg- **1** [I;T (UP)] to (cause to) become covered with fog: *The steam has fogged my glasses.* | *My glasses have fogged up in this steamy room.* | *The light you let into the camera has fogged the film.* **2** [T] to confuse or hide: *irrelevant accusations which fogged the real issues*

**fog·bound** /'fɒgbəʊnd/ <sup>1</sup>'fɑːg-, 'fɔːg-/ *adj* prevented by fog from working or travelling as usual: *fogbound air traffic*

**Fogg** /fɒg/ <sup>1</sup>'fɑːg/, **Phil·e·as** /'fɪliəs/ the main character in the book *Around the World in Eighty Days* by Jules Verne. Phileas Fogg is an Englishman who travels around the world and has many adventures.

**fog·gy** /'fɒgi/ <sup>1</sup>'fɑːgi, 'fɔːgi/ *adj* **1** not clear because of fog; very misty: *It's unpleasant to be out on a foggy day.* **2** not exact; unclear: *I didn't hear all she said; I've only a foggy idea/notion what it was all about.* **3** *not have the foggiest (idea)* *infml* not to know at all: *"What are you going to do this evening?" "I haven't the foggiest."* —**gily** *adv* —**giness** *n* [U]

**Foggy Bot·tom** /'fɒgi ˌbɒt - ˌtɒm/ the American Department of State (from the fog that often surrounds the offices of the State Department and the SWAMP (wet land) that the offices are built on)

**fog·horn** /'fɒghɔːn/ <sup>1</sup>'fɑːghɔːn, 'fɔːg-/ *n* a loud horn used as a warning of fog by and to ships: *She's got a voice like a foghorn.* (=a very loud unpleasant voice)

**fog lamp** /'fɒl - ˌ/ *BrE* || **fog light** *AmE*— *n* a lamp on the front of a car or other vehicle that gives a strong beam of light to help driving during fog

**fo·gy**, **fogey** /'fəʊgi/ *n* *derog* a slow usu. old person who dislikes changes and does not understand modern ideas: *The judge was an old fogy and was completely out of touch with modern life.* | *a young fogy* (=a young person who does not keep up with fashion or modern ideas)

► **CULTURAL NOTE** In the US while Ronald Reagan was president (1980–88), young people who supported the REPUBLICAN party and CONSERVATIVE values were called **young fogies**. ◀

**foi·ble** /'fɔɪbəl/ *n* a small rather strange and stupid personal habit or weakness of character: *My father was always buying new hats; it was just one of his foibles.*

**foie gras** /'fwɑː 'grɑː/ *n* [U] *infml for* PATE DE FOIE GRAS

**foil**<sup>1</sup> /'fɔɪl/ *v* [T (in)] to prevent (someone) from succeeding in (some plan): *The thief was foiled in his attempt to enter the house.* | *We foiled his attempt to escape.*

**foil**<sup>2</sup> *n* **1** [U] (*often in comb.*) metal beaten or rolled into very thin paperlike sheets: *Milk bottle tops are made of tin foil.* | *Wrap the chicken in foil before you cook it.* **2** [U] paper covered with this: *Cigarettes are wrapped in foil to keep them fresh.* **3** [C (for, to)] a person or thing of a kind that makes the better or different quality of another more noticeable: *In the play, a wicked old uncle acts as a foil to the noble young prince.*

**foil**<sup>3</sup> *n* a light narrow sword used in FENCING —compare EPEE, SABRE(2)

**foist** /fɔɪst/ *v*

**foist** sbdy./sthg. **on** sbdy. *phr v* [T] **1** to cause (someone or something unwanted) to be borne or suffered for a time by (someone): *They didn't invite him to go out with them, but he foisted himself/his company on them.* **2** [(OFF)] to pass or sell to, esp. by deceit: *Don't trust that shopkeeper; he'll try to foist damaged goods (off) on you.*

**Fok·ker** /'fɒkər/ <sup>1</sup>'fɑː-, **Anthony** (1890–1939) a Dutch aircraft maker who supplied planes to Germany during the First World War. He moved to the US in 1925 and made planes for the American aircraft industry.

**fold**<sup>1</sup> /fəʊld/ *v* **1** [T (UP)] to turn or press back one part of (something, esp. paper or cloth) and lay it on the remaining part; bend into two or more parts: *She folded the handkerchief and put it in her pocket.* | *Fold up the tablecloth and put it away, please.* | *The paper must be folded in half/into quarters.* —compare CREASE **2** [I] to be able to be bent back; close up: *Does this table fold?* | *These doors fold back against the wall.* | *a folding bed* **3** [T] to press (a pair of limbs) together: *He folded his arms.* (=crossed them over his chest) | *The insect folded its wings.* **4** [T+obj+adv/prep] to wrap; cover: *He found some seeds folded in a little piece of paper.* **5** [I (UP)] (esp. of a business) to fail and close: *Our New York operation has folded.* **6** [T;I] (in card games) to put down (one's cards) to show that one can no longer play in the game: *He was sure the others had better hands so he folded.*

**fold in** *phr v* [T] **1** (fold sthg. ↔ in) to mix (something eatable) into a mixture that is to be cooked, by turning over gently with a spoon: *Fold in two eggs and then cook gently for thirty minutes.* **2** (fold sbdy. in sthg.) to wrap (one's arms) round (someone); EMBRACE in: *She folded the child in her arms.*

**fold sthg. into sthg.** *phr v* [T] to mix (something eatable) into (a mixture that is to be cooked), by turning over gently with a spoon

**fold up** *phr v* **1** [I] to break down, esp. emotionally: *She just folded up when we told her the bad news about her son.* **2** [T;I] (esp. of a business) to fail and close: *The shop folded up two weeks after it opened.*

**fold**<sup>2</sup> *n* **1** a line made in material, paper, etc., by folding: *Each fold in the skirt should be exactly the same width.* | *The curtain hung in heavy folds.* **2** a hollow part inside something folded: *She put her book in the fold of the newspaper to protect it from the rain.* **3** *esp. BrE* a a bend in a valley b a hollow in a hill **4** *tech* a bend in the bands of rock and other substances that lie one under the other beneath the surface of the earth

**fold**<sup>3</sup> *n* **1** [C] a sheltered corner of a field where farm animals, esp. sheep, are kept for protection, surrounded by a fence or wall **2** [*the*] the place or situation where one belongs and/or is protected, such as one's home or religion: *The church is always willing to welcome repentant sinners back to the fold.*

**fold·a·way** /'fəʊldəweɪ/ *adj* [A] made in such a way that can be folded up out of the way or out of sight: *a foldaway bed*

**fold·er** /'fəʊldər/ *n* a folded piece of cardboard used for holding loose papers

**Fo·ley** /'fəʊli/, **Thomas** (1929– ) a long-serving US CONGRESSMAN who became Speaker of the House in 1989

**fo·li·age** /'fəʊli-ɪdʒ/ *n* [U] *fml or tech* the leaves of a plant or plants: *Most trees lose their foliage in winter.*

**Fo·lies·Ber·gère** /'fɒli beə'ʒeər/ <sup>1</sup>'fəʊ, liː beər-/ [*the*] a music hall in Paris, famous since the 19th century for its shows which have featured many different kinds of performers, including women wearing few clothes

**fo·li·o** /'fəʊliəʊ/ *n* -lios *tech* **1** [C] a single numbered sheet of paper in a book; both sides of a page: *The manuscript you sent me has a folio missing.* **2** [U] the (size of) paper produced by folding a large sheet of paper once so as to give two sheets or four pages in all —compare OCTAVO,



**QUARTO** 3 [C] a book of the largest size, made up of large sheets folded once: *She owns a Shakespeare first folio.* | *This book on art has been brought out in folio.*

**folk**<sup>1</sup> /fəʊk/ *n* 1 [P] *BrE* || also **folks** *AmE*— people belonging to a particular race or nation, or sharing a particular kind of life: *They are just simple country folk.* —see also **FOLKS** 2 [P] *BrE* || **folks** *AmE*— people: *Some folk are just so inconsiderate.* 3 [U] **FOLK MUSIC**: *Do you prefer folk or jazz?*

▷ **USAGE** Compare **people** and **folk**. **People** is the usual word for the mass of the population in a country, city, or area: *The people of Liverpool demand the right to work.* **Folk** is used especially of people who share a certain way of life, or who belong to a small **COMMUNITY**: *the old folk of the village.* ◁

**folk**<sup>2</sup> *adj* [A *no comp.*] of music or any other art that has grown up among working and/or country people as an important part of their way of living and belongs to a particular area, trade, etc., or that has been made in modern times as a copy of this: *folk music* | *a folk concert* | *folk art*

**folk dance** /'fəʊk dɑːns/ *n* (a piece of music for) an old country dance, usu. performed by a set of dancers —**folk dancer** *n*

**folk he-ro** /'fəʊk he-rə/ *n* a person who is well-known, popular, and respected by ordinary people; usu. for a brave action or way of life: *Casey Jones is a well-known American folk hero.*

**folk-lore** /'fəʊklɔː/ *n* [U] (the scientific study of) all the knowledge, beliefs, habits, etc., of a racial or national group, still preserved by memory, or in use from earlier and simpler times

**folk medi-cine** /'fəʊk miːdɪn/ *n* medicines such as those made from **HERBS** which are not based on modern medical science

**folk mu-sic** /'fəʊk mjuːzɪk/ *n* [U] music of working or country people of a particular nation or area, developed over many years and of which the original songwriter or **COMPOSER** is not usu. known

**folks** /fəʊks/ *n* [P] *infml* 1 one's parents or relations: *I'd like you to meet my folks.* 2 (used esp. when addressing people in a friendly way) people: *Well, folks, shall we go out this afternoon?* 3 *AmE* for **FOLK**<sup>1</sup> (2)

**folk sing-er** /'fəʊk sɪŋər/ also **folksinger**— *n* a person who sings folk songs

**folk song** /'fəʊk sɒŋ/ *n* a simple song (in the style) of working or country people often with repeating words and tune

**folk-sy** /'fəʊksɪ/ *adj infml, esp. AmE* 1 simple and friendly; not formal 2 *derog* pretending to be or trying to appear simple in ways, likes, etc.: *They're a pretty folksy couple next door, growing all their own vegetables, keeping hens in the backyard, making pottery and so on.*

**folk-tale** /'fəʊkteɪl/ *n* a popular story passed on by speech over a long period of time in a simple society

**fol-li-cle** /'fɒlɪkəl/ || 'fæz-/ *n* any of the small holes in the skin of a person or animal from which hairs grow

**fol-low** /'fɒləʊ/ || 'fæz-/ *v* 1 [I;T] to come, arrive, go, or leave after; move behind in the same direction: *The boy followed his father out of the room.* | *Don't keep following me about everywhere I go.* | *I'm sending the letter today; the packet will follow (later).* | *The film star walked to his car, followed by a crowd of journalists.* | (fig.) *He'll be a difficult man to follow.* (=it will be difficult for anyone to take his place because he is/was so good) 2 [I;T] to happen, take place, or come directly after (something): *May follows April.* | *The flash of lightning was followed by loud thunder.* | *The number 5 follows the number 4.* | *We expect even greater successes to follow.* | *The late-night movie follows the 10 o'clock news.* 3 [T] to go in the same direction as; continue along: *The railway line follows the river for several miles.* | *Follow the road until you come to the hotel.* 4 [T] to go after in order to catch: *I think we're being followed!* 5 [T] to keep in sight; watch: *The cat followed every movement of the mouse.* | *He followed her with his eyes.* (=watched her movements closely) 6 [T] to attend or listen to carefully: *He followed the speaker's words with the greatest attention.* 7 [I;T] to understand clearly: *I didn't quite follow (what you were saying); could you explain it again?* 8 [T] to take a keen interest in: *He follows all the baseball news.* | *I've been following her career since I first saw her acting in "The Tempest".* —see also **FOLLOWER** 9 [T] to (accept and) act according to: *Why didn't you follow my advice?* | *The vil-*

*lagers still follow the customs of their grandfathers.* 10 [I;T] to be or happen as a necessary effect or result (of): *When there is war, social unrest often follows.* | *Disease often follows war.* [+ (that)] *"If the door was not opened by force, it follows that (=it is reasonable to believe that) the burglar had a key."* *"No that doesn't necessarily follow: there may be another explanation."* 11 [T] to carry on (a certain kind of work): *You will have to study hard if you intend to follow the law.* (=be a lawyer) 12 **as follows** as now to be told; as given in the list below: *The results are as follows: Philip Carter 1st, Sam Cohen 2nd, Sandra Postlethwaite 3rd.* 13 **follow in the footsteps** of to follow an example set by (someone) in the past: *The girl's following in her father's footsteps and studying to be a doctor.* 14 **follow suit** a to do the same as someone else has: *Once one bank raised its interest rate, all the others followed suit.* b (in a card game) to play a card of the same suit<sup>1</sup> (2) as one played earlier: *If you can't follow suit, you can trump it.* 15 **follow that** car a phrase often used in old films when someone wants to follow or catch someone else: *They climb into a taxi and give the order "follow that car!"* 16 **to follow** as the next dish; as the next thing to eat: *"What will you have to follow, sir?" asked the waiter.* | ... *and to follow, some fresh fruit*

**follow on/upon** sthg. *phr v* [T *no pass.*] to result from: *Her illness followed on her mother's death.*

**follow through** *phr v* 1 [T] (**follow** sthg. ↔ **through**) also **follow out**— to complete; carry out exactly to the end: *The police have followed through several lines of inquiry, but are no nearer to finding the culprit.* | *Even though he followed out all the instructions carefully, he couldn't get the machine to work.* 2 [I] (in tennis, GOLF, etc.) to complete a stroke by continuing to move the arm after hitting the ball —see also **FOLLOW-THROUGH**

**follow** sthg. ↔ **up** *phr v* [T] 1 to take further action on (something): *I decided to follow up her suggestion.* 2 [(with)] to take further action after (something) (by means of something else): *I followed up my letter with a visit.* —see also **FOLLOW-UP**

**fol-low-er** /'fɒləʊər/ || 'fæz-/ *n* someone who follows or supports a particular person, belief, or cause, etc.: *He's a faithful follower of his home football team.* | *Many ancient Greeks were followers of Socrates.* | *a follower of fashion* —see also **CAMP FOLLOWER**

**fol-low-ing**<sup>1</sup> /'fɒləʊɪŋ/ || 'fæz-/ *adj* 1 [*the*+A] next: *He was sick in the evening, but on the following day he seemed quite well again.* 2 [*the*+A] that is/are to be mentioned now: *Payment may be made in any of the following ways: by cash, by cheque, or by credit card.* [also *n*, *the*+C, *pl. following*] *The following (=these people) have been selected to play in tomorrow's match: Duncan Ferguson, Hugh Williams, ...* | *The following is a summary of the President's speech.* 3 [A] (of wind or sea) moving in the same direction as a ship; helping: *The sailing boat made good speed, thanks to a following wind.*

**following**<sup>2</sup> *n* [*usu. sing.*] a group of supporters or admirers: *This politician has quite a large following in the North.* —see also **FOLLOWING**<sup>1</sup> (2)

**following**<sup>3</sup> *prep* after: *Following the speech, there will be a few minutes for questions.*

**follow-my-leader** /'fɒləʊ miː leɪdər/ || 'fæz-/ *BrE* || **follow-the-leader** *AmE*— *n* [U] a children's game in which one of the players does actions which all the other players must copy

**follow-on** /'fɒləʊ ɒn/ *n* a second **INNINGS** that must be played by a cricket team that has made a much smaller **SCORE** than the opposing team in its first innings

**follow-through** /'fɒləʊ θruː/ *n* 1 (in sports) the part of a stroke made after hitting the ball 2 *AmE* the action taken to complete a plan: *Their idea was good but their follow-through was abysmal.* —see also **FOLLOW THROUGH**

**follow-up** /'fɒləʊ ʌp/ *adj, n* [A;C] (of or being) a thing done or action taken to continue or add to the effect of something done before: *follow-up visits* | *Our newspaper story on the sex trial was a great success; we must get someone to write a follow-up.* —see also **FOLLOW UP**

**fol-ly** /'fɒli/ || 'fæz-/ *n* 1 [C;U] *fml* (an act of) stupidity: *It would be sheer folly to reduce public spending on the health service.* | *The old man smiled sadly as he remembered the follies of his youth.* 2 [C] a building of strange



or fanciful shape, that has no particular purpose, esp. as built only to be looked at

**Fol-som** /'fəʊlsəm/ a prison for criminals who have broken US FEDERAL (2) law

**fo-ment** /fəʊ'ment/ *v* [T] *fml* to help (something evil or unpleasant) to develop, esp. over a long period of time: *He accused the government's enemies of deliberately seeking to foment rebellion.* — **~ation** /,fəʊmen'teɪʃən, -mən-/ *n* [U]

**fond** /fɒnd/ *adj* **1** [F+of] having a great liking or love (for someone or something, esp. as the result of a long relationship): *She has many faults, but we're all very fond of her.* | *My young nephews are fond of playing practical jokes on me.* **2** [A] loving in a kind, gentle, or tender way: *a fond farewell* **3** [A] foolishly loving; giving in weakly to loving feelings: *A fond mother may spoil her child.* **4** [A] foolishly trusting or hopeful: *She's waiting patiently in the fond belief he'll come back to her.* —see also **FONDLY** — **~ness** *n* [S;U (for)]

**Fon-da** /'fɒndə/ **Henry** (1905–82) an American actor who made many films including *The Grapes of Wrath*, *Twelve Angry Men*, and *On Golden Pond*

**Fonda, Jane** (1937– ) an American actress, daughter of Henry Fonda, known also for her left-wing views esp. her support for Vietnam and her opposition to the American government during the Vietnam War. Her films include *Klute*, *The China Syndrome*, and, with her father, *On Golden Pond*. She is also known for her interest in active physical exercise. —see colour picture on page 228

**Fonda, Peter** (1939– ) an American actor and director best-known for his film *Easy Rider*; son of Henry Fonda

**fon-dant** /'fɒndənt/ **fa:n-/ n** [C;U] a sweet made of very small grains of sugar, that melts in the mouth

**fon-dle** /'fɒndl/ **fa:ndl/ v** [T] to touch gently and lovingly; stroke softly: *The old lady fondled her cat.*

**fond-ly** /'fɒndli/ **fa:ndli/ adv** **1** in a loving way: *She greeted her old friend fondly.* **2** in a foolishly hopeful manner: *She fondly imagined that she could pass her exam without working.*

**fon-due** , **-du** /'fɒndju:/ **fa:n'du:/ n** [C;U] **1** a dish from Switzerland made with melted cheese, into which pieces of bread are dipped **2** (often in comb.) a dish consisting of small pieces of food, such as meat or fruit, that are cooked in or dipped into a hot liquid

**font** /fɒnt/ **fa:nt/ n** **1** a large container in a church, usu. made of stone, that holds the water used for baptizing (BAPTIZE) people in the Christian religion —see picture at **CHURCH** **2** a **FOUNT**<sup>2</sup>

**Fon-teyn** /fɒn'teɪn/ **fa:n-/ Dame Mar-got** /'mɑ:ɡəʊ/ **'mɑ:r-/** (1919–91) an English **BALLET** dancer with the Royal Ballet (1935–59), known esp. for her dancing partnership with Rudolph Nureyev

**Fonz** /fɒnz/ **fa:nz/ also the Fonz—** the central character in the American television **SERIES** called **HAPPY DAYS**. Fonz is a popular teenage boy who is known for wearing a black leather jacket and giving the **THUMBS-UP** sign. —see colour picture on page 686

**food** /fu:d/ *n* **1** [U] something that living creatures take into their bodies to provide them with strength to do things and to help them to develop and to live: *Milk is the natural food for young babies.* | *a serious food shortage* | *a new sort of liquid plant-food* **2** [C;U] something solid for eating: *We always get lots of food there, but they never give us much to drink.* | *Too many sweet foods, like cakes and pastry, may increase your weight.* **3** [U+for] subject matter (for an argument or careful thought); that which helps ideas to start working in the mind: *The teacher's advice gave me plenty of food for thought.* **4** if music be the food of love, play on *quote* a phrase from Shakespeare's play *Twelfth Night*

**food ad-di-tive** /'fu:ɪd/ *n* a substance added to food to preserve it or to give it taste or colour. Under EC rules only those considered safe can be used and they are given **E** numbers.

► **CULTURAL NOTE** Many people think that even additives with **E** numbers are not good for the health. In the US, **E** numbers are not used but the **FDA** gives advice on which additives are safe to use. Many Americans also think, however, that additives are not good for people's health. ◀

**food aid** /'fu:ɪd/ *n* [U] food provided by richer countries to

countries who are in difficulty and cannot produce or do not have enough food themselves: *The Foreign Minister asked for large-scale western financial help, technical assistance and extra food aid.*

**Food and Ag-ri-cul-ture Or-gan-i-za-tion** /'fu:ɪd . ɒ . ɡən . ɪ . zə . ʃən/ [the] see **FAO**

**Food and Drug Ad-min-i-stration** /'fu:ɪd . ɒ . ɒ . ɡən . ɪ . zə . ʃən/ [the] see **FDA**

**food bank** /'fu:ɪd . ɒ / *n* **AmE** a place which gives food to poor people

**food chain** /'fu:ɪd . ɒ / *n* a group of animals (and sometimes plants) arranged in a **SERIES** in which each member eats the one below it and is eaten by the one above it

**food cou-pon** /'fu:ɪd . ɒ / *n* see **FOOD STAMP**

**food-ie** /'fu:ɪdi:/ *n* *infml* someone who is very interested in cooking and good food

**food la-bel-ling** /'fu:ɪd . ɒ / *n* [U] a way of describing the contents of ready-packed food now demanded by law in most Western countries. Under **EC** and **FDA** rules all contents and **FOOD ADDITIVES** must be put in a list and a date given when the food should be sold and eaten by.

**food poi-son-ing** /'fu:ɪd . ɒ / *n* [U] a painful stomach disorder caused by eating food that contains harmful bacteria or poisonous substances

**food pro-cess-or** /'fu:ɪd . ɒ / *n* a piece of electrical equipment that performs a number of operations in preparing food, such as cutting and mixing

**food stamp** /'fu:ɪd . ɒ / also **food coupon** *n* (in the US) an official paper which the government gives to people who are unemployed or on a low income. They can be used to buy food and some other necessary things: *This store accepts food stamps.* | *My daughter's on food stamps.* | *Are you eligible for food stamps?*

**food-stuff** /'fu:ɪdstʌf/ *n* [often pl.] a substance used as food, esp. a simple food material that is to be cooked and/or mixed with other foods for eating

**fool**<sup>1</sup> /fu:l/ *n* **1** [C] a person who is lacking in judgment or good sense: *What fool has put that wet paintbrush on my chair?* | *What a fool I was to think that she really loved me.* | *Don't do it like that, you silly little fool!* | *That fool of a secretary (=that secretary, who is a fool) has forgotten to book the conference room!* **2** [C] (in former times) a manservant at the court of a king or noble, whose duty was to amuse his master; **JESTER** **3** [C;U] (*usu. in comb.*) esp. **BrE** a dish made of cooked soft fruit which is made into a liquid and beaten up with cream: *gooseberry fool* **4** any fool anyone at all: *Any fool could have told you it wasn't genuine!* **5** fools rush in where angels fear to tread *quote* a phrase from Alexander Pope's *Essay on Criticism* and used when people act stupidly or without thinking: *The emotional traumas of the past two years have taught me the wisdom of not rushing in where angels fear to tread.* **6** make a fool of oneself to behave unwisely or in a silly way and lose people's respect: *She was never keen on performing in public because she was afraid of making a fool of herself.* **7** make a fool of someone to trick someone; make someone seem stupid: *Are you trying to make a fool of me? Anyone can see it's a fake!* **8** (the) more fool you/him, etc. esp. **BrE** I think you were, he was, etc., a fool to do, accept, expect, etc., that: *"He picked up a strange cat and it bit him."* *"More fool him; he should have known better."* **9** no/no-body's/no one's fool a person who cannot be tricked: *He tried to sell me that old car, but I'm nobody's fool; I could see it hadn't got an engine.* **10** play the fool to act in a foolish manner: *Johnny's always playing the fool during lessons.* —see also **APRIL FOOL**

**fool**<sup>2</sup> *v* **1** [T] to deceive; trick: *She fooled the old man out of all his money.* | *He's fooled a lot of people into believing he's a rich man.* **2** [I] to speak without serious intention; joke: *Don't worry; he was only fooling.* **3** You can fool all the people some of the time, and some of the people all the time, but you cannot fool all the people all the time. *quote* a phrase used in a speech by Abraham Lincoln, saying that people will not always be deceived by politicians **4** You could have fooled 'me! *infml* I don't believe you or agree with you!

**fool about/around** *phr v* [I] *derog* **1** to spend time doing nothing useful: *He never does any work; he just fools about all day long.* **2** [(with)] to behave in a foolish or irresponsible way: *You shouldn't fool around with*



dangerous chemicals. **3** [(with)] to amuse oneself by having sexual relationships, esp. with people who are already married: *He's always fooling around with other men's wives.*

**fool<sup>3</sup>** *adj* [A] *infml*, esp. AmE stupid; foolish: *That fool son of mine has smashed up his new car.*

**fool-e-ry** /'fu:ləri/ *n* [C;U] (an example of) silly behaviour

**fool-hardy** /'fu:lhɑ:di||-ɑ:r-/ *adj* foolishly daring; taking unwise risks; RECKLESS: *You were very foolhardy to jump off the bus while it was still moving.* --**diness** *n* [U]

**fool-ish** /'fu:lɪʃ/ *adj* *derog* **1** unwise; without good sense: *It would be foolish to spend money on something you can't afford.* | *a foolish remark* **2** like a fool; stupid: *I felt rather foolish when I couldn't answer the teacher's question.* | *with a foolish grin on his face* --**ly** *adv* --**ness** *n* [U]

**fool-proof** /'fu:lpru:f/ *adj* **1** that cannot go wrong: *I've found a foolproof way of doing it.* | *a foolproof plan* **2** *infml* very simple to understand, use, work, etc.: *a foolproof machine*

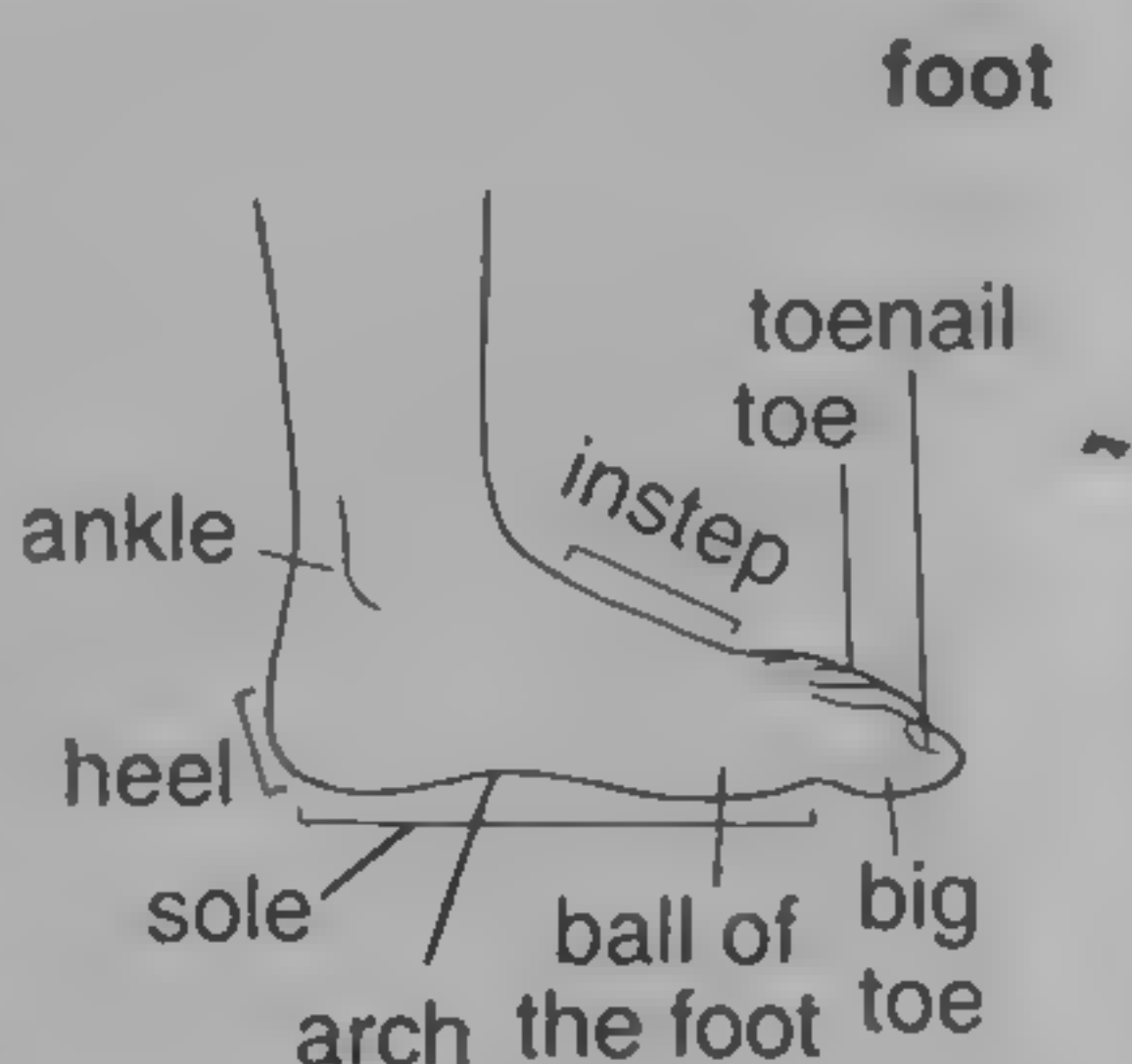
**fools-cap** /'fu:lskæp/ *n* [U] a large size of paper, esp. writing paper

**fool's er-rand** /, 'l.../ *n* [S] a useless or unnecessary piece of work or effort: *I found I'd gone/been sent on a fool's errand; the man I'd been told to contact was out of the country.*

**fool's gold** /, 'l.../ *n* [U] **1** any of various yellow metals which look like gold **2** something which seems attractive or exciting, but will cause disappointment: *He's off chasing fool's gold.*

**fool's par-a-dise** /, 'l.../ *n* [S] a carelessly happy state for which there is no good reason: *You're (living) in a fool's paradise if you think your husband's never been unfaithful to you.*

**foot<sup>1</sup>** /fʊt/ *n* **feet** /fi:t/ **1** [C] the movable part of the body at the end of the leg, below the ankle, on which a person or animal stands: *I stepped on a nail, and my foot's very sore.* | *It's nice to sit down after being on your feet (=standing or walking) all day.* | *This medicine will soon have you back on your feet (=well) again.* | *He got to his feet (=stood up) when he heard the bell.* | *She found it difficult to keep (on) her feet (=not to fall) on the slippery surface.* | *The congregation rose to their feet when the priest walked down the aisle.* | *She said she wouldn't set foot in (=enter) the room until it had been properly cleaned.* --see also PAW **2** [C *usu. sing.*] the part of a sock or STOCKING that covers the foot: *There's a hole in the foot.* **3** [U] esp. *lit* particular manner of walking; step: *He's very fleet of foot.* (=He walks/runs very fast.) **4** [the (of)] the bottom part or lower end: *He stood at the foot of the stairs and shouted up at me.* | *There's something written at the foot of the page.* | *He sat on the foot of the bed.* | *She laid some flowers at the foot of her friend's grave.* **5** [C] (*pl. sometimes foot*) (*written abbrev. ft*) (a measure of length equal to) 12 inches (INCH) or about 0.305 metres: *Three feet make one yard.* | *He's six feet/foot tall, but she's only five foot one.* (=five feet and one INCH tall) **6** [C] a division of a line in poetry, in which there is usu. a strong beat and one or two weaker ones: *In the line "The way/was long/the wind/was cold", the words between each pair of upright lines make up a foot.* **7** **feet first** dead: *You'll go out feet first if you keep driving so fast.* **8** **a foot in both camps** connected or concerned with two groups of people who have different or opposing ideas, beliefs, etc. **9** **a foot in the door** a favourable position from which to advance, gain influence, etc.: *Now she's got a foot in the door in show business, I think her talent will carry her a long way.* **10** **get/start off on the right/wrong foot** to begin (sthg.) in a good or bad way: *He started off on the right foot when he complimented her mother on her cooking.* **11** **have/keep both (one's) feet on the ground** to be sensible and REALISTIC: *Despite her rise to stardom she has kept both feet firmly on the ground.* **12** **have/with one foot in the grave** *infml derog* (to be/who is) very old and near death **13** **my foot** *infml* I don't believe it: *"She says*



*she's too busy to speak to you."* "Busy, my foot! She just doesn't want to." **14** **on foot** (by) walking: *It's easier to get there on foot than by car.* --see TRANSPORT (USAGE) **15** **put a foot wrong** also **not put a foot right** --esp. BrE to say or do the wrong things: *She answered all our questions perfectly; she never put a foot wrong.* **16** **put one's best foot forward**: **a** to walk as fast as possible: *It's a long way to the village, but if you put your best foot forward you'll reach it before the evening.* **b** to do the best one can: *You've been so lazy in the past few months; you'll have to put your best foot forward if you want to pass that exam now.* **17** **put one's feet up** *infml* to rest by lying down or sitting with one's feet supported on something: *It's nice to put your feet up after a long day's work.* **18** **put one's foot down** *infml* **a** to speak and act firmly on a particular matter, esp. to forbid something: *The father didn't like his son staying out at night, so he put his foot down and forbade him to do it again.* **b** BrE to drive very fast: *As soon as they left the town he put his foot down and soon reached the next village.* **19** **put one's foot in it** esp. BrE || **put one's foot in one's mouth** esp. AmE-- *infml* to say something wrong or unsuitable, usu. as a result of thoughtlessness, and so cause an awkward situation: *I really put my foot in it when I asked him how his wife was; she's left him for another man.* **20** **-footed** /fʊtɪd/ having feet of the stated kind or number: *four-footed/flat-footed* | *Ducks are web-footed.* **21** **-footer** /fʊtə/ a person or thing that is a stated number of feet long, tall, or high: *My brother is a six-footer.* --see also COLD FEET, FEET OF CLAY, UNDERFOOT, **drag one's feet** (DRAG<sup>1</sup>), **fall on one's feet** (FALL<sup>1</sup>), **tie/bind someone hand and foot** (HAND<sup>1</sup> (34)), **be rushed off one's feet** (RUSH<sup>1</sup>), **stand on one's own (two) feet** (STAND<sup>1</sup> (28)), **sweep someone off their feet** (SWEEP<sup>1</sup>)

**foot<sup>2</sup>** *v* **foot the bill** *infml* to pay the bill: *My parents footed the bill for the wedding.*

**Foot, Mi-chael** /'maɪkəl/ (1913-- ) a British politician on the left-wing of the Labour Party who became party leader in 1980 but was replaced by Neil Kinnock after Labour's defeat in the general election in 1983. He is known also as a political thinker, writer, and member of CND.

**foot-age** /'fʊtɪdʒ/ *n* [U] (the length in feet of) cinema film used for a scene, subject, etc.: *They screened some interesting old footage of the first flight across the Atlas Mountains.*

**foot-and-mouth dis-ease** /, 'l.../ *n* [U] a disease of cattle, sheep, and goats, in which spots appear in the mouth and on the feet, and which often causes death

**foot-ball** /'fʊtbɔ:l/ *n* **1** [U] also **Association football** *fml* --BrE a game that is played between two teams of 11 players using a round ball that is kicked but not handled; SOCCER: *a football player* | *a football match* --see colour picture on page 884 **2** [U] AmE || **American football** BrE-- an American game, rather like RUGBY, played between two teams of 11 players using an OVAL (=egg shaped) ball that can be handled or kicked --see colour picture on page 884 **3** [C] a large leather or plastic ball filled with air, used in these games **4** [C] something (e.g. an idea) which is used as the starting point for an argument, disagreement, etc., rather than being considered for its own qualities: *The issue has become a political football.* --see REFEREE (USAGE) and see also extra information on page 501 --**er n**: *a professional footballer*

**Football As-so-ci-a-tion** /'l.../ [the] see FA

**football fan** /'l.../ *n* a very keen supporter of football, esp. of a particular team: *Football fans paraded through the town centre after the match.*

**football field** /'l.../ *n* an area covered with grass, marked out for the game of football

**football hoo-li-gan** /'l.../ *n* in Britain, a noisy, rough usu. young man, who causes trouble at football matches or near football grounds by fighting and breaking things.

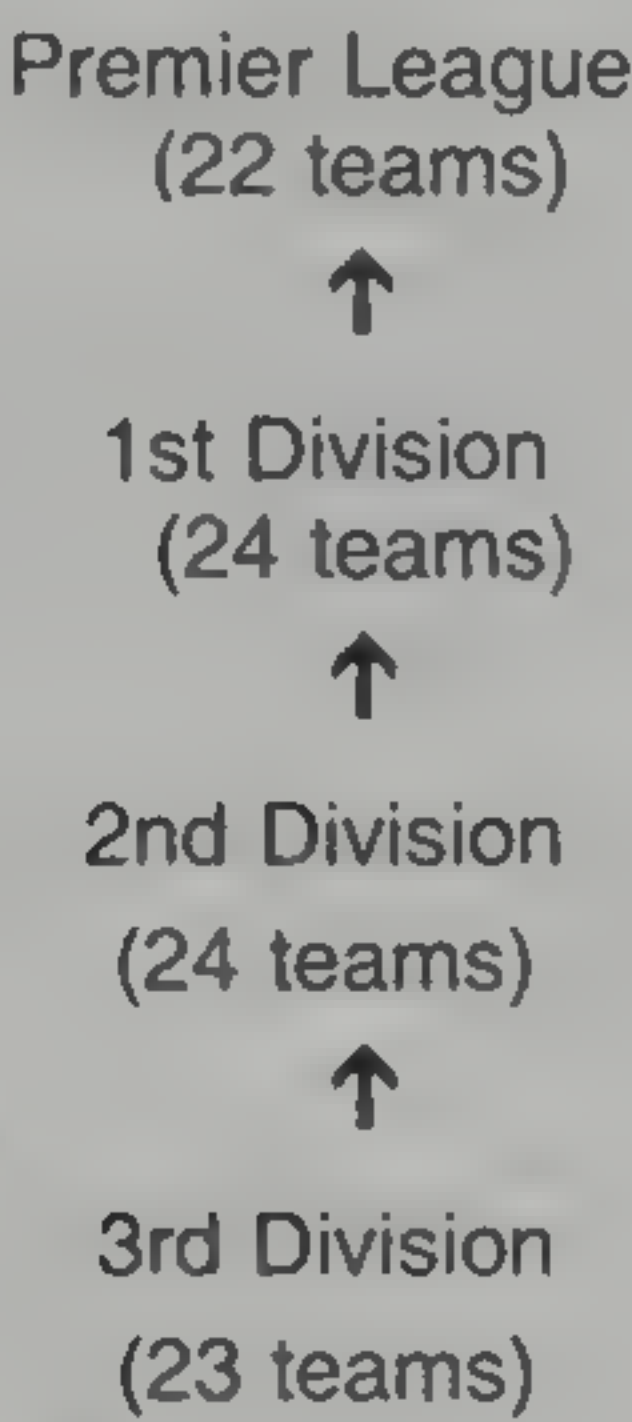
► **CULTURAL NOTE** Most football supporters blame hooligans for spoiling the game for others. In Britain, football clubs try to prevent hooliganism by forbidding alcohol in the ground, keeping the supporters of each team apart, building special fences, and providing more seats. ◀

**Football League** /, 'l.../ [the] the organization of professional football teams for competition in England, Wales, and Scotland. The team with the most points at the end

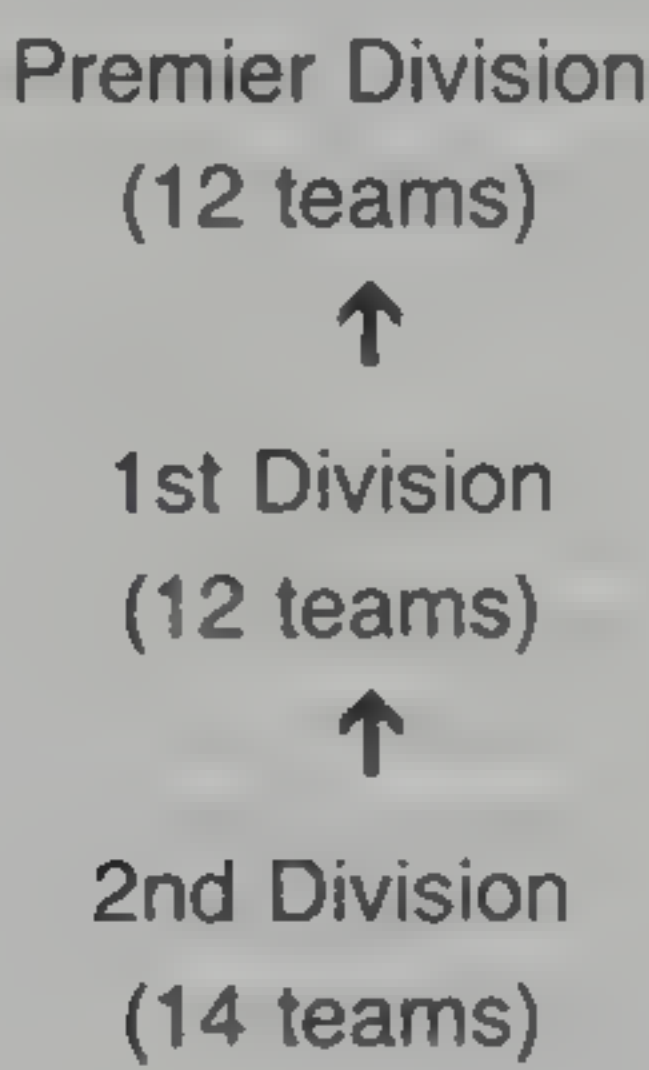


Football

Football (soccer *AmE*) is a very popular sport in Britain, played between August and May (the **football season**). Many people, esp. men, support a particular team and may go to watch the games that their team plays. Professional football is controlled by two organizations, the FOOTBALL LEAGUE and the Football Association (the FA). In England and Wales, there are 93 teams in the League, organized into four divisions:



In Scotland, there are 38 teams in the League, organized into three divisions:



Teams play regularly against the other teams in their league or division according to a fixed programme. At the end of the season the team in the Premier League (or the Premier Division in Scotland) with the most points is the **League Champion**. This competition is called the **League Championship**.

The other important competition is the FA CUP, often just called the cup. This is open to all AMATEUR football teams that belong to the FA as well as the 93 professional teams. The teams play against each other in a KNOCKOUT competition which starts in August and ends in May. The two teams left in the competition play in the **FA Cup Final** at Wembley Stadium in London. This is a very important national sporting occasion, watched by millions of people on television.

Team names usu. include the name of the town or city where the team is based, e.g. Leeds United, Sheffield Wednesday, Wolverhampton Wanderers (Wolves), Dundee United, etc.

football (soccer *AmE*)



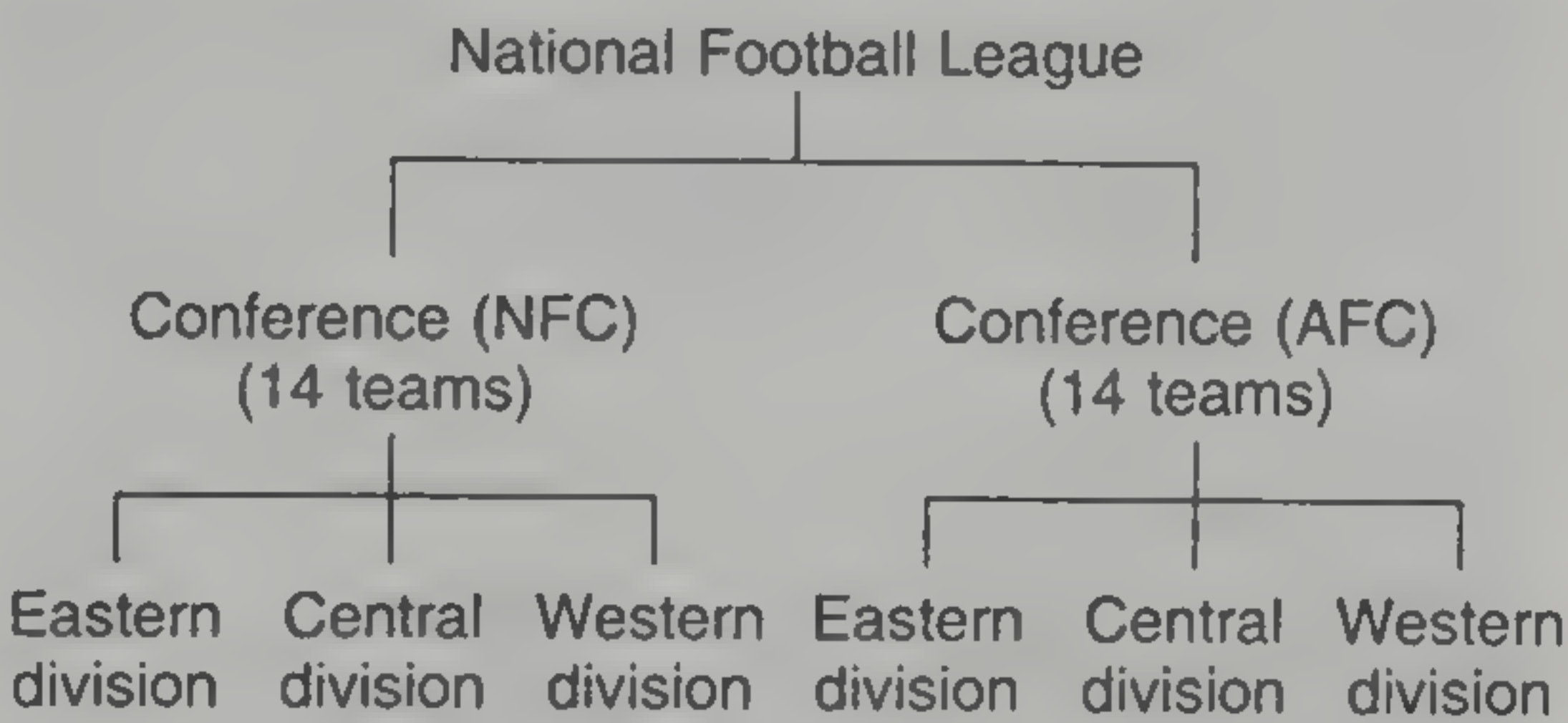
Football

Football (American football *BrE*) is a very popular sport in the US. Many people, esp. men, support a particular team and watch the games that their team plays.

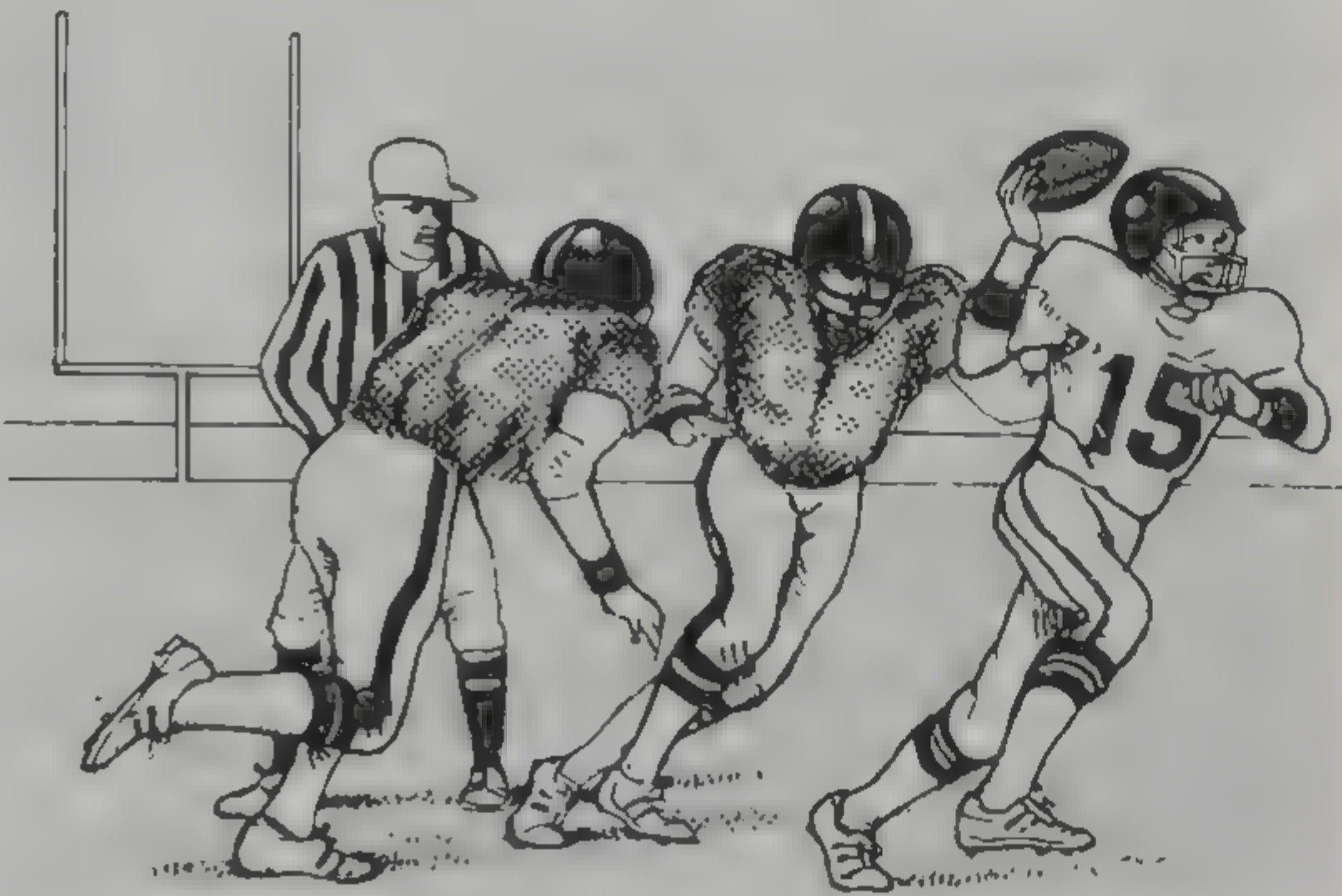
Each team has a name, which usually includes the name of the town or city that the team is associated with. Some examples of names are: **New York Jets**, **Washington Redskins**, **New England Patriots**, and **Green Bay Packers**.

The season starts in early autumn and ends at the end of January with the **SUPER BOWL**, which is the NFL championship game. The two teams that play in the Super Bowl are determined by games within the divisions and conferences. The Super Bowl is only one game, and at the end of the game, they have a **sudden-death play-off**, in which the first team to gain points wins the game.

Professional football games are organised in the US in the following way:



football (American football *BrE*)





of the playing season wins the League Championship.  
—see also FOOTBALL (1) and see extra information on page 501

**football pools** /'fʊt·, pʊl/ *n* [the+P] see POOLS

**football shirt** /'fʊt·, ʃɪrt/ *BrE* || **football jersey** /'fʊt·, ʃɪrt/ *AmE*—  
*n* a shirt worn when playing football. Football shirts are usu. brightly coloured and help the players and people watching to tell the two teams apart. They show each player's number (and sometimes their name) on the back.

**foot-bridge** /'fʊt, brɪdʒ/ *n* a narrow bridge to be used only by people walking

**foot-fall** /'fʊt·fɔ:l/ *n* *esp. lit* the sound of a footstep

**foot fault** /'fʊt·fɔ:t/ *n* (in games like tennis) a mistake that happens when the feet of the player who is serving (SERVE<sup>1</sup> (7)) are not behind the BASELINE —see picture at TENNIS  
—**foot-fault** *v* [I]

**foot-hill** /'fʊt, hɪl/ *n* [usu. pl.] a low hill at the bottom of a mountain or chain of mountains: *the foothills of the Himalayas*

**foot-hold** /'fʊt·həʊld/ *n* somewhere where a foot can be firmly placed to help one to continue to climb up or down: *The mountain climber couldn't find many footholds on the melting ice.* | (fig.) *It isn't easy to get/gain a foothold (=a first position from which to advance) in the film world.*

**foot-ing** /'fʊtɪŋ/ *n* [S] 1 a firm placing of the feet; a surface for the feet to stand on: *She lost her footing on the muddy road and fell.* 2 a particular (stated) kind of position or base: *Is this business on a firm footing?* (=properly planned, with enough money to support it) | *International tension was high, and the army was put on a war footing.* | *I like to keep my relationship with my colleagues on a business footing; it doesn't do to get too friendly.* | *They all started off on an equal footing.*

**foot-tle** /'fʊt·tl/ *v* [I (ABOUT, AROUND)] *old-fash infml* to behave in a careless way, without giving serious attention to what one is doing: *Get on with your work and stop footling about.* —see also FOOTLING

**foot-lights** /'fʊtlaɪts/ *n* [P] a row of lights along the front edge of the floor of a stage at the theatre, to show up the actors —see picture at THEATRE

**foot-ling** /'fʊt·lɪŋ/ *adj* *old-fash derog* worthless; unimportant: *Don't waste my time with such footling questions.* —see also FOOTLE

**foot lock-er** /'fʊt·lɒk·ər/ *n* *AmE* a strong, usu. metal box which can be locked; usu. used by soldiers and placed at the bottom end of the bed

**foot-loose** /'fʊt·lu:s/ *adj* free to go wherever one pleases and do what one likes; having no family or business duties to limit one's freedom: *I wish I could be footloose and fancy-free like you.*

**foot-man** /'fʊtmən/ *n* -**men** /mən/ a manservant who opens the front door, introduces visitors, waits at table, etc., and is often dressed in a uniform

**foot-note** /'fʊtnəʊt/ *n* a note at the bottom of a page in a book, to explain some word or sentence, add some special remark or information, etc.

**foot-pad** /'fʊtpæd/ *n* *old use* a thief who attacks travellers on the roads and takes their money —compare HIGHWAYMAN

**foot-path** /'fʊtpɑ:θ/ || -pæθ/ *n* -**paths** /pɑ:ðz/ || pæðz/ *esp. BrE* a narrow path or track for people to walk on: *A public footpath led across the fields.*

**foot-plate** /'fʊtpleɪt/ *n* (*esp. formerly*) a metal plate covering the floor of a railway engine, where the people driving the train stand

**foot-print** /'fʊt, prɪnt/ *n* a mark made by the foot of a person or animal: *The hunter recognized the footprints of a bear near the river bank.* | *Who left these muddy footprints on the kitchen floor?* —see picture at PRINT

**foot-race** /'fʊt-reɪs/ *n* a race for runners, usu. over level ground

**foot-sie** /'fʊtsi/ *n* *infml* **play footsie (with someone):** a to rub one's feet on someone else's in a sexually playful way: *They were playing footsie under the table.* b *AmE* to work together (with someone), esp. in a way that is not completely honest or fair: *Senators and congressmen play footsie (with each other) while the situation gets steadily worse.*

**Footsie** *n* see FT-SE INDEX

**foot-slog** /'fʊtslɒɡ/ || -slɑ:ɡ/ *v* -**gg-** [I] *BrE infml* to march or walk a long way in tiring conditions — **ging** *n* [U]

**foot-sore** /'fʊtsɔ:ɪ/ *adj* having tender, painful, or swollen feet, esp. as a result of much walking: *After a long day's walk in the country, they came home hungry and footsore.*

**foot-step** /'fʊtstep/ *n* 1 (the sound of) a person's step: *Her footsteps were clearly marked in the snow.* | *He heard soft footsteps coming up the stairs.* 2 the distance covered by one step: *The servant walked two or three footsteps behind his master.* —see also follow in the footsteps of (FOLLOW)

**foot-stool** /'fʊtstʊ:l/ *n* a low support on which a seated person can rest their feet

**foot-wear** /'fʊtweəɪ/ *n* [U] shoes, boots, etc., worn on the feet: *You can buy shoelaces in the footwear department.*

**foot-work** /'fʊtwɜ:k/ || -wɜ:rk/ *n* [U] the use of the feet, esp. skilfully in sports, dancing, etc.: *Her footwork is very poor.*

**fop** /fɒp/ || fɑ:p/ *n* *derog* a man who takes too much interest in his clothes and personal appearance — **pish** *adj* — **pishness** *n* [U]

**for**<sup>1</sup> /fɔ:ɪ/; *strong* fɔ:ɪ/ *prep* 1 intended to belong to or be given to: *I've got a present for you.* | *They've bought some new chairs for the office.* | *Save some of the cake for Arthur.* —see USAGE 2 2 (shows purpose): *This knife is for cutting bread.* | *What's this handle for?* (=What is its purpose?) | *I've sent my coat away for cleaning.* (=to be cleaned) 3 instead of; so as to help: *Let me lift that heavy box for you.* 4 as a help to; in order to improve the condition of: *The doctor's given her some medicine for her cold.* 5 because of: *He was rewarded for his bravery.* | *There's a prize for finding the most mistakes.* | *We could hardly see for the thick mist.* | *He couldn't speak for laughing.* | *For several reasons, I'd rather not meet him.* —see also for fear of (FEAR<sup>1</sup>) 6 at the time of; on the occasion of: *We've invited our guests for 9 o'clock.* | *I've got an appointment with the doctor for the 5th of March.* | *I'm warning you for the last time.* | *She's coming home for Christmas.* | *He bought his son a boat for his birthday.* 7 (shows length of time): *She didn't answer for several minutes.* | *I haven't seen her for years.* | *That's all for today.* —compare SINCE<sup>2</sup>; see USAGE 1, DURING (USAGE) 8 (shows distance): *They ran fast for a mile or two.* 9 as regards or in regard to: *France is famous for its wines.* | *I have no ear for music.* | *I've put my name down for four tickets.* | *Are you still all right for money?* (=Have you enough?) | *He has a great respect for his father.* | *It's difficult for someone in her position to think clearly.* | *He's a great one for details.* (=He always wishes all details to be correct.) | **For all** (=as far as) *I know, he may be dead.* | *Fortunately for him, he can swim.* | *The men are all ready for action.* | *She's the very person for the work.* | *You're too strong for me!* (=much stronger than me) | *It's not for the pupil* (=it is not suitable for the pupil) *to tell the teacher what to do.* 10 in order to have, get, or obtain: *They're waiting for the bus.* | *For details of this offer, write to Jones & Co.* | *The demand for coal is greatest in the winter.* | *He's gone for a swim.* | *Run for* (=in order to save) *your life!* | *The kids ran through the streets, pressing all the doorbells for a laugh/for fun.* | **“Now for** (=now I will have/let's have) *a nice cool drink,”* he said, opening the bottle. 11 (shows payment, price, or amount): *I bought this book for £3.* | *I paid £3 for the book.* | *These cigarettes are £2 for twenty.* | *She wouldn't go up in an aircraft for anything.* (=whatever she was offered or paid) | *He wouldn't harm anybody for (all) the world.* (=on any account) 12 as being or as part of: *I took him for a fool.* | *We've got duck for dinner today.* | *He says so, and I for one believe him.* (=I believe him even if no one else does) | *I don't want to buy it; for one thing I don't like the colour, and for another the price is too high.* —see also for example (EXAMPLE<sup>1</sup>), for instance (INSTANCE<sup>1</sup>) 13 representing; meaning; as a sign of: *What's the word for “to travel” in French?* | *Red is for danger.* 14 in favour of; in support of; in agreement with; in defence of: *I'm all for the young enjoying themselves.* | *Are you for the government or against it?* | *He plays football for England.* | *Let's have three cheers for the captain!* 15 towards; so as to reach: *The children set off for school.* | *This train is for Brighton only.* (=it doesn't stop anywhere else) | *I bought a first-class ticket for Oxford.* 16 (following a comparative) after; as the result of; because of: *You look*



*all the better for your holiday.* | *This table's the worse for wear.* (=looks old and damaged as the result of long use) **17** considering; considered as; considering that (someone or something) is ... : *It's cold for the time of year.* | *He's heavy for a small boy.* **18** (followed by **each**, **every**, or a number) in addition to; compared with: *For every mistake you make, you'll lose half a mark.* | *For every three who do agree with you, there are two who don't.* **19** (followed by a noun or pronoun and an infinitive with **to**) (introduces a phrase that is used instead of a **CLAUSE**): a (as the subject of a sentence, often introduced by **it is**): *For an old man to run fast* (=that an old man should run fast) *is dangerous.* | *It isn't convenient for him to visit us* (=that he should visit us) *next week.* **b** (following a verb of type **L**): *Our plan was for one of us to travel* (=that one of us should travel) *by train with all the bags.* **c** (following an adjective or adverb, esp. with **too** or **enough**): *It's plain for all to see.* (=so that all may see it) | *He speaks too softly for her to hear.* (=so softly that she cannot hear) | *My parents don't live near enough for me to visit them very often.* **d** (following a noun): *There's no need for us to argue* (=that we should argue) *about this.* **e** (following a verb): *I can't bear for her to be angry* (=that she should be angry) *with me.* **f** (following **than**): *There's nothing worse than for a person to ill-treat* (=than that a person should ill-treat) *a child.* **g** (used instead of a **CLAUSE** with **if**): *His father must have allowed him to stay up very late, for him to be so tired.* (=if he is/was so tired) **h** (used instead of a **CLAUSE** of purpose, where the infinitive may sometimes be left out): *I've sent my coat away for it to be cleaned.* (=in order that it may be cleaned) | *The bell rang for the lesson (to begin).* (=in order that it should begin) | *For the plants to do well* (=in order that they should do well) *they must be watered.* —see also **FOR**<sup>1</sup> (**3**) **20** **be (in)** 'for it *infml*, esp. *BrE* to be likely to be punished, get into trouble, etc.: *You'll be (in) for it if father finds out you've not been to school for three days!* **21** **for all**: **a** in spite of: *For all his efforts, he didn't succeed.* | *He's mean and bad-tempered and snores, but she loves him for all that.* (=in spite of everything he does) | *For all that* (=in spite of the fact that) *she has a good sense of balance, she can't dance well.* —compare **DESPITE**<sup>1</sup>, **NOTWITHSTANDING** **b** considering how little: *For all the improvement you've made in the last year, you might as well give up singing.* **22** **if it weren't/if it hadn't been for** if something were not true or had not happened: *If it hadn't been for your help* (=if you had not helped), *we'd never have finished it.* **23** **that's ... for you** often *derog* that's typical of ... ; that's the trouble with ... : *When I arrived late I couldn't get a hot bath or a good meal; still, that's country hotels for you.* **24** **there's ... for you** *derog* that's not what I would call ... ; that's the complete opposite of ... : *I help her and she ignores me — there's gratitude for you.* —see also **WHAT FOR**, **as for** (**AS**<sup>1</sup>), **except for** (**EXCEPT**<sup>2</sup>), **for good** (**GOOD**<sup>2</sup>)

▷ **USAGE** **1** Compare **for** and **in** with time. After *first*, *only*, and negative or superlative forms American English may use **in** where British English uses **for**: *the first time in (for BrE) many years* | *the worst accident in (for BrE) months* | *He hadn't eaten a good meal in (for BrE) a long time.* **2** When we talk about buying or making something for someone we omit **for** in sentences like *She bought her friend a drink.* (=She bought a drink **for** her friend.) However, you must use **for** in sentences like *He bought a new chair for the office.* ◁

**for**<sup>2</sup> *conj fml or lit* (used after the main statement) and the reason is that; because: *The old lady does not go out in the winter, for she feels the cold a great deal.*

**for-age**<sup>1</sup> /'fɔːrɪdʒ/ 'fɑː- / **n** **1** [U] food supplies for horses and cattle **2** [S;U] (an act of) foraging

**forage**<sup>2</sup> *v* [I+adv/prep] **1** to wander about looking for food or other supplies: *The campers went foraging for wood to make a fire.* **2** *infml* to hunt about or search, turning many things over: *She foraged about in her handbag, but she couldn't find her ticket.*

**for-as-much as** /fə'reɪz'mʌtʃ əz/ 'fɑːrəz'mʌtʃ əz/ *conj esp. old use* because; as it is a fact that

**for-ay**<sup>1</sup> /'fɔːreɪ/ 'fɑː- / **n** **1** a sudden rush into enemy country, usu. by a small number of soldiers, in order to damage or seize arms, food, etc.: *The officer sent a few of his men on a foray.* **2** a short attempt to become active in an activity that is quite different from one's usual activity: *After his unsuccessful foray into politics, he went back to his law practice.*

**foray**<sup>2</sup> *v* [I (into)] to go out and attack enemy country suddenly, esp. in order to carry off food or other supplies

**for-bear**<sup>1</sup> /fɔː'beəʃ, fə-||fɔːr-, fər-/ *v* -bore /'bɔːʃ/, -borne /'bɔːn/ 'bɔːrɪn/ [I (from);T obj] *fml* to hold oneself back from doing something, esp. with an effort of self-control or in a generous and forgiving way: *He deserved to be punished several times, but I've forbore (from doing so).* [+v-ing/to-v] *The judge forbore sending/to send her to prison on condition that she behaved better in future.* | *I could scarcely forbear from laughing out loud.*

**for-bear**<sup>2</sup> /'fɔːbeəʃ/ 'fɔːr-/ **n** [usu. pl.] a **FOREBEAR**

**for-bear-ance** /fɔː'beərəns/ 'fɔːr-/ **n** [U] patience; forgiveness: *The child doesn't understand that he's doing wrong; you must treat him with forbearance.*

**for-bear-ing** /fɔː'beərɪŋ/ 'fɔːr-/ *adj* long-suffering; gentle and willing to forgive: *He has a forbearing nature; he accepts all his troubles with a smile.*

**for-bid** /fə'bid/ 'fər-/ *v* -bade /'beɪd/ 'bæd/ or -bad /'bæd/, -bidden /'bɪdn/ or -bid ; *present participle* -bidding [T] **1** to refuse to allow; command against, esp. officially or with the right to be obeyed: *The law forbids the use of chemical fertilizers.* | *Smoking is forbidden during takeoff.* [+obj+to-v] *I forbid you to tell anyone.* **2** [+obj(i)+obj(d)] *fml* to refuse to allow (someone) to have (something): *He forbade his children sweets because he didn't want their teeth to be ruined.* **3** to prevent: *Lack of time forbids any further discussion at this point.*

**for-bid-den** /fə'bɪdn/ 'fər-/ *adj* not allowed, esp. by law or rule: *It's a rule of this club that religion and politics may not be talked about; they're forbidden ground/territory.*

**Forbidden City** /'fɔːrɪdn/ 'fər-/ [the] a range of buildings enclosed by a wall in Beijing which was once forbidden to everyone except the **EMPEROR**'s family and servants, but which is now open to the public

**forbidden fruit** /'fɔːrɪdn/ 'fər-/ **n** [U] a pleasure or enjoyment that is disapproved of or not allowed (and perhaps therefore more enjoyable), esp. a sexual act (from the story of Adam and Eve in the Bible, who ate the fruit of a tree in the Garden of Eden which God had told them not to eat. As a result, they were forced to leave the Garden of Eden.)

**for-bid-ding** /fə'bɪdn/ 'fər-/ *adj* having a fierce, unfriendly, or dangerous appearance: *She's very nice, but because she has a forbidding manner she's slow in making friends.* | *The travellers' way was blocked by a forbidding range of mountains.* —~ly *adv* —~ness **n** [U]

**force**<sup>1</sup> /fɔːs/ 'fɔːrs/ **n** **1** [U] natural or physical power; active strength: *The force of the explosion broke all the windows in the building.* | *He had to use force to get the lid off the tin.* **2** [U] fierce or uncontrolled use of strength; violence: *The thief took the money from the old man by force.* **3** [C;U] *tech* (measurement of) a power that changes or may produce change of movement in a body on which it acts or presses: *The force of gravity makes things fall to earth.* —see picture at **DIAGRAM** **4** [C] a person, thing, belief, action, etc., that has a strong enough influence to cause widespread changes in a way of living, or that has uncontrollable power over living things: *She was a powerful force in the women's movement.* | *Many forces have been at work in the last fifty years that have improved the standard of living.* | *Modern wars let loose terrible forces of destruction.* | *The forces of evil attack us on all sides.* | *Some countries are greatly at the mercy of the forces of nature; they suffer from floods, earthquakes, etc.* | **Force of circumstances** prevented us from doing anything else. —see also **MARKET FORCES** **5** [U] strong influence on the mind: *The force of his argument was so great that many people changed their minds overnight.* | *I did it from force of habit.* (=because it was my habit to do so) **6** [C] a group of people brought together or trained for some kind of action, esp. military action: *Both land and sea forces were employed in the attack on the island.* | *The British air fighting force is called the Royal Air Force.* | *She joined the police force.* | *A small force of doctors and nurses was rushed to the scene of the big fire.* **7** **in force** in large numbers: *Trouble was expected at the football match, so the police turned out in force.* **8** **in(to) force** (of a rule, order, law, etc.) in(to) effect, use, or operation: *Are the new charges for postage stamps in force yet?* | *What's the use of a government making new laws if they can't be put into force?* **9** **join/combine forces (with)** to come together (with) for a common purpose: *We're joining forces with some friends to hire a*



hall for a party. | The two countries joined forces to fight their common enemy. —see also FORCES

**force**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T] 1 to make (an unwilling person or animal) do something; drive: *I didn't want to do it; he forced me.* | *The rider forced his horse on through the storm.* [+obj+to-v] *His arguments forced them to admit he was right.* | *She won't do it unless you force her (to).* 2 to use physical force on: *"I'm trying to get some more books into this box."* *"Don't force them; you'll break the box."* [+obj+adv/prep] *He tried to force the suitcase through the tiny hole in the fence.* | *We had to force our way through (the dense crowd).* | *We had to force the window open.* | *The thieves forced an entry/forced their way into the house.* (=got in by force) | *The lock had been forced.* (=broken open by force) | (fig.) *The government forced the bill through parliament against fierce opposition.* 3 to produce with difficulty or by unwilling effort: *Although he was in great pain, he forced a smile.* —see also FORCED 4 to make (a plant) grow faster by the use of heat: *forced rhubarb* 5 **force someone's hand** to make someone act as one wishes or before they are ready: *He was delaying signing the contract for the house, but the man selling it forced his hand by threatening to accept another offer.*

**force sthg. from/out of sthg.** *phr v* [T] to get from (an unwilling person): *They forced a confession out of him.*

**force sbdy./sthg. on/upon sbdy.** *phr v* [T] to cause to be accepted by (an unwilling person): *He didn't want to be paid, but we forced the money on him because we knew he needed it.* | *I don't want to force myself/my company on you, but I'd be grateful for a lift if you've got some extra room in the car.*

**Force** [the] (in the film *Star Wars*) a type of magic power which only a few acquire and learn to control and which can be used for good or evil. It can be seen in a beam of light which can be used like a sword and its protective qualities are called upon in the phrase "The Force be with you." —see also STAR WARS

**forced** /fɔːst/|fɔːrst/ *adj* 1 [A no comp.] done or made because of a sudden happening which makes it necessary to act without delay: *The aircraft had to make a forced landing because two of its engines were on fire.* 2 produced unwillingly and/or with difficulty: *I thought their laughter was rather forced.*

**force-feed** /'fɔː-./ *v* -fed /fed/ [T] to feed (a person or animal) by forcing food or esp. liquid down the throat: *One prisoner refused to eat, so he had to be force-fed.* | (fig.) *Schoolchildren shouldn't be force-fed with Shakespeare before they are old enough to really appreciate his plays.*

**force-ful** /'fɔːsfəl/|fɔːrs-/ *adj* *apprec* (of a person, words, ideas, etc.) strong; powerful: *She made a forceful speech.* | *He isn't forceful enough to make a good leader.* —~ly *adv* —~ness *n* [U]

**force majeure** /,fɔːs məˈʒɜːr/|fɔːrs məz-/ *n* *Fr* an event beyond one's control, e.g. a STRIKE<sup>2</sup> (1), government rules, ACTS *rmof* GOD, or war

**force-meat** /'fɔːs-mi:t/|fɔːrs-/ *n* [U] *esp. BrE* a mixture containing bread, HERBS, and often meat, which is cut up very small and used esp. for putting inside a chicken, joint of meat, etc., that is to be cooked

**for-cepts** /'fɔːseps, -sɪps/|fɔːr-/ *n* **forceps** a medical instrument with two long thin blades joined at one end or in the middle, used for holding objects firmly: *When a baby is delivered by having its head held and pulled by forceps, it is called a forceps delivery.* —see PAIR (USAGE)

**for-ces** /'fɔːsɪz/|fɔːr-/ *n* [(the) P] (often *cap.*) the army, navy, and air force of a country: *In wartime most young men are expected to join the forces.* | *the armed forces*

**for-ci-ble** /'fɔːsɪbəl/|fɔːr-/ *adj* [A] 1 using physical force: *The police had to make a forcible entry into the house where the thief was hiding.* 2 (esp. of a manner of speaking) strong and effective; powerful: *The burglary at her neighbour's house was a forcible reminder that she should lock up carefully every time she went out.* —bly *adv*: *Her ideas are always forcibly expressed.*

**ford**<sup>1</sup> /fɔːd/|fɔːrd/ *n* a place in a river where the water is not very deep, and where it can be crossed on foot, in a car, etc., without using a bridge

**ford**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T] to cross (a river, stream, etc.) by means of a ford —~able *adj*

**Ford** *tdmk* a company which makes cars —see also Henry FORD

**Ford, Ford Mad-dox** /fɔːd 'mædəks/|fɔːrd-/ (1873–1939) a British writer of many poems, articles and NOVELS including *The Good Soldier* and *Parade's End* about his experiences as an army officer in France in the First World War

**Ford, Ger-ald** /'dʒerəld/ *R* (1913– ) an American Republican politician who became president of the US when Richard Nixon resigned (RESIGN) after the Watergate affair in 1974. He was defeated in the next presidential election in 1976 by Jimmy Carter. Ford once fell down the steps of an airplane and some jokes were made about his clumsiness (CLUMSY).

**Ford, Glenn** (1916– ) a Canadian actor who made many films in the 1940s–1960s, often playing a HERO

**Ford, Harrison** (1942– ) an American actor known esp. for his adventure films such as *Star Wars* and *Raiders of the Lost Ark* —see picture at Indiana JONES

**Ford, Henry** (1863–1947) an American industrialist and maker of the first motor cars. He set up the Ford Motor Company in 1903, designed (DESIGN) the famous Model T car in 1908 and by 1924 his company was producing two million cars a day. He is known as one of the richest, most successful American businessmen.

**Ford, John** (1586–1639) an English poet and writer for the theatre. His plays include *'Tis Pity She's a Whore* and *The Broken Heart*

**Ford, John** (1895–1973) an American film director esp. known for his WESTERNS including *Stagecoach* and *How the West was Won* and *The Grapes of Wrath*

**fore**<sup>1</sup> /fɔː/ *n* to the fore to a noticeable, active, or leading position: *She passed her law examinations when she was very young, and soon came to the fore as a lawyer.* | *The crisis in the Middle East suddenly brought him to the fore as an expert negotiator.*

**fore**<sup>2</sup> *adj, adv* [A] in or towards the front part of a boat or aircraft: *Your seat's in the fore part of the aircraft.* —opposite aft

**fore**<sup>3</sup> *interj* (a warning shouted by a GOLF player who has just hit the ball)

**fore-** see WORD FORMATION

**fore and aft** /,fɔː-./ *adj* (of a ship's sails) set in a line along the length of the ship rather than across —compare SQUARE-RIGGED

**fore-arm**<sup>1</sup> /'fɔːrɑːm/|fɔːr-/ *n* the lower part of the arm between the hand and the elbow

**fore-arm**<sup>2</sup> /,fɔːr'ɑːm/|fɔːr-/ *v* [T *usu. pass.*] to prepare for an attack before the time of need —compare FOREWARN

**fore-bear, for-** /'fɔːbeə/|fɔːr-/ *n* [*usu. pl.*] *fml* or *lit* a person from whom one is descended; ANCESTOR: *My forebears lived in the west of Scotland.*

**fore-bode** /fɔː'bəʊd/|fɔːr-/ *v* [T] *fml* to be a warning of (something unpleasant)

**fore-bod-ing** /fɔː'bəʊdɪŋ/|fɔːr-/ *n* [C;U] a feeling of coming evil; PREMONITION: *She thought of a lonely future with foreboding.* [+that] *She had a strange foreboding that she'd never see him again.*

**fore-cast**<sup>1</sup> /'fɔːkɑːst/|fɔːrkæst/ *v* -cast or -casted [T] to say, esp. with the help of some kind of knowledge (what is going to happen at some future time); PREDICT: *He confidently forecast a big increase in sales, and he turned out to be right.* [+that] *The teacher forecast that fifteen of his pupils would pass the exam.* [+wh-] *I wouldn't like to forecast whether he will resign.* —~er *n*: a weather forecaster

**forecast**<sup>2</sup> *n* a statement of future events, based on some kind of knowledge or judgment: *The weather forecast on the radio said there would be heavy rain.* | *the government's economic forecasts for the coming year* [+that] *The newspaper's forecast that the government would only last for six months turned out to be wrong.*

**fore-castle** /'fəʊksəl/|fəʊksəl, 'fɔːrkæsəl/ *n* *AmE* for FO'C'SLE

**fore-close** /fɔː'kləʊz/|fɔːr-/ *v* [I (on);T] to take back property because of someone's failure to repay (a MORTGAGE): *The building society will be forced to foreclose (this mortgage) because regular repayments have not been made.* —closure /'kləʊzə/ *n* [C;U]

**fore-court** /'fɔːkɔːt/|fɔːrkɔːrt/ *n* 1 a large open area in front of a large building: *He parked his car in the station*



**forecourt.** 2 the area of a GARAGE<sup>1</sup> (2) where petrol and oil are sold

**fore-doomed** /fɔː'duːmd||fɔːr-/ *adj* [(to)] *fml* intended (as if) by fate to reach a usu. bad state or condition: *The plan was foredoomed to failure.*

**fore-father** /'fɔː,fɑːðə||'fɔːr-/ *n* [usu. pl.] a person from whom the stated person is descended; relative in the far past; (male) ANCESTOR: *One of his forefathers was an early settler in America.* —see also FAMILY TREE

**fore-finger** /'fɔː,fɪŋgə||'fɔːr-/ *n* INDEX FINGER

**fore-foot** /'fɔːfʊt||'fɔːr-/ *n* -feet /fɪt/ either of the two front feet of a four-legged animal

**fore-front** /'fɔːfrʌnt||'fɔːr-/ *n* [the (of)] the most forward place; leading position: *She has been in/at the forefront of the struggle for women's rights.*

**fore-go** /fɔː'gəʊ||fɔːr-/ *v* -went /'went/, -gone /'gɒn||'gɔːn/ [T past tense rare] to FORGO

**fore-go-ing** /'fɔːgəʊɪŋ||'fɔːr-/ *adj*, *n* [A;the+C] **foregoing** *fml* (the one) that has just been mentioned: *The foregoing (paragraph) is a brief summary of the situation; in what follows I shall go into more detail.*

**foregone con-clusion** /'fɔː'gɒn||'fɔːr-/ *n* [S] a result that is or was certain: *"Do you think he'll win again?" "He won the last four matches so I think it's a foregone conclusion."*

**fore-ground** /'fɔːgraʊnd||'fɔːr-/ *n* the nearest part of a scene in a view, a picture, or a photograph: *a photograph of our town, with the church in the foreground* | (fig.) *She talks a great deal, because she likes to keep herself in the foreground.* (=as noticeable as possible) —compare BACKGROUND

**fore-hand** /'fɔːhænd||'fɔːr-/ *n* (in games such as tennis) (the ability to make) a stroke with the front of the hand (the PALM) turned in the direction of movement: *She has a very strong forehand.* —compare BACKHAND -**forehand** *adj*, *adv*: *a forehand smash*

**fore-head** /'fɔːhɛd||'fɔːrɪd, 'fɑːrɪd, 'fɔːrhɛd/ *n* the part of the face above the eyes and below the hair: *a man with a high (=wide) forehead* —see picture at HEAD

**foreign** /'fɔːrɪn||'fɔː-, 'fɑː-/ *adj* [no comp.] 1 to, from, of, in, being, or concerning a country or nation that is not one's own or not the one being talked about or considered: *foreign travel* | *These oranges are foreign produce.* | *I collect foreign stamps.* | *Have you had any foreign experience as a teacher?* (=Have you taught in other countries?) | *He's visited many foreign countries and has learnt several foreign languages.* | *I can't understand what he says; he must be foreign.* —compare DOMESTIC<sup>1</sup> (4), NATIVE<sup>1</sup>; see OVERSEAS (USAGE) 2 [F+to] *fml* having no place (in); having no relation (to): *He's a very good person; unkindness is foreign to his nature.* 3 [A] *fml* coming or brought in from outside; not belonging; harmful: *The swelling on her finger was caused by a foreign body in it.* (=a small piece of something that had entered it by accident)

**foreign af-fairs** /'fɔːrɪn||'fɔːr-/ *n* [P] matters concerning international relations and the interests of one's own country in foreign countries: *the Ministry of Foreign Affairs*

**foreign aid** /'fɔːrɪn||'fɔːr-/ *n* [U] money, goods, etc., given to poor countries; AID<sup>2</sup> (3)

**soldiers of the Foreign Legion**



**Foreign and Com-mon-wealth Of-ice** /'fɔːrɪn||'fɔːr-/ [the] see FCO

**fore-ign-er** /'fɔːrɪnə||'fɔː-, 'fɑː-/ *n* a person belonging to a foreign race or country: *Could you help me, please? I'm a foreigner, and I can't read the signs.*

**foreign ex-change** /'fɔːrɪn||'fɔːr-/ *n* [U] (the practice of buying and selling) foreign money

**Foreign Le-gion** /'fɔːrɪn||'fɔːr-/ [the] the French army of VOLUNTEERS which mainly consists of foreigners and was used in the French colonies (COLONY) during the First and Second World Wars. It is connected in people's minds with strong, rough men able to suffer difficult and severe conditions.

**foreign min-is-ter** /'fɔːrɪn||'fɔːr-/ *n* the head of the foreign office, the government department responsible for a country's relations with other countries. In Britain the head of the Foreign Office is called the Foreign Secretary: *The foreign ministers of the 12 EC countries meet in Brussels today.*

**Foreign Of-ice** /'fɔːrɪn||'fɔːr-/ [the] *infml* FOREIGN AND COMMON-WEALTH OFFICE

**foreign pol-i-cy** /'fɔːrɪn||'fɔːr-/ *n* [U] the general plan of one country concerning its relations with other countries: *It is not yet clear who will be in charge of foreign policy in the new government.*

**Foreign Sec-re-ta-ry** /'fɔːrɪn||'fɔːr-/ *n* (in Britain) the head of the Foreign Office —compare SECRETARY OF STATE, see FCO

**Foreign Ser-vice** /'fɔːrɪn||'fɔːr-/ [the] a part of the US STATE DEPARTMENT which sends DIPLOMATS to foreign countries to deal with business abroad

**fore-knowl-edge** /fɔː'nɒlɪdʒ||fɔːr'nɔːl-/ *n* [U (of)] *fml* knowledge about something before it happens

**fore-leg** /'fɔːleg||'fɔːr-/ *n* either of the two front legs of a four-legged animal

**fore-lock** /'fɔːlɒk||'fɔːrɪlɒk/ *n* 1 a piece of hair growing just above and falling over the forehead: *She brushed her horse's mane and forelock before the show jumping began.* —see picture at HORSE 2 **tug at/touch one's forelock** *BrE* to be (too) respectful to someone in a position of power, someone of a higher social class, etc.

**fore-man** /'fɔːmən||'fɔːr-/ **forewoman** *fem.* — *n* -men /mən/ 1 a skilled and experienced worker who is put in charge of other workers 2 (in a court of law) the leader of the 12 people (JURY) appointed to decide whether a person on trial is guilty or not

**fore-most** /'fɔːməʊst||'fɔːr-/ *adj* [the+A] most important; leading: *He was the foremost conductor of his day.* —see also **first and foremost** (FIRST<sup>1</sup>)

**fore-name** /'fɔːneɪm||'fɔːr-/ *n* *fml* for FIRST NAME

**fore-noon** /'fɔːnuːn||'fɔːr-/ *n* *fml* the time before midday; morning

**fo-ren-sic** /fə'rensɪk, -zɪk/ *adj* [A] *tech* related to or used in the law and the tracking of criminals: *The use of scientific methods by the police is known as forensic science.* | *A specialist in forensic medicine was called as a witness in the murder trial.*

**forensic ev-i-dence** /'fɔːrɪn||'fɔːr-/ *n* [U] something physical, e.g. blood, hair, fingerprints, or drugs, which proves something in law: *The rapist was convicted on the basis of forensic evidence.*

**fore-or-dain** /'fɔːrɔːdeɪn||'fɔːrɔːr-/ *v* [T often pass.] *fml* to arrange or decide from the very beginning that, or how, something or someone shall happen, act, or be done: *He believed his success was foreordained.* [+obj+to-v] *His followers were convinced that he was foreordained to lead them to victory.* [+that] *God foreordained that she would one day be queen.*

**fore-play** /'fɔːpleɪ||'fɔːr-/ *n* [U] sexual activity, such as touching the sexual organs and kissing, that is done before SEXUAL INTERCOURSE

**fore-run-ner** /'fɔːrʌnə||'fɔːr-/ *n* [+of] 1 a sign or warning that something is going to happen: *A few isolated sales were the forerunner of a massive run on the Stock Exchange.* 2 a person or group who prepares the way for, or is a sign of the coming of, a more important person or group: *Mrs Pankhurst, who fought for votes for women, was a forerunner of the modern women's movement.*

**fore-see** /fɔː'siː||fɔːr-/ *v* -saw /'sɔː/, -seen /'siːn/ [T] to see or form an idea about (what is going to happen in the



future) in advance; expect: *We should have foreseen this trouble months ago and made provisions for it.* [+ (that)] *He foresaw that his journey would be delayed by bad weather.* [+wh-] *It's impossible to foresee whether she'll be well enough to come home from hospital next month.* — see also UNFORESEEN

**fore-see-a-ble** /fɔː'siːəbəl/ || fɔːr-/ *adj* that can be foreseen: *It was a foreseeable accident.* | *The house certainly needs a new roof, but we can't afford one in the foreseeable future.* (=as far ahead in time as we can see)

**fore-shad-ow** /fɔː'ʃædəʊ/ || fɔːr-/ *v* [T] *esp. lit* to be a sign of (what is coming); represent or be like (something that is going to happen)

**fore-shore** /'fɔːʃɔːr/ || 'fɔːr-/ *n* [the] the part of the seashore a between the highest point the sea reaches and the lowest point it goes back to b between the edge of the sea and the part of the land that has grass, buildings, etc.

**fore-short-en** /fɔː'sɔːtn/ || fɔːr'fɔːrtn/ *v* [T] 1 to draw (an object or scene) with the lines and shapes in the distance smaller, shorter, and closer together, as they appear to the human eye 2 to make (objects or scenes) seem smaller, shorter, and/or closer together than is really the case: *Television cameras foreshorten the picture you see.*

**fore-sight** /'fɔːsaɪt/ || 'fɔːr-/ *n* [U] *usu. apprec* the ability to imagine what will probably happen, allowing one to act to help or prevent developments; care or wise planning for the future: *He had the foresight to invest his money carefully.* —compare HINDSIGHT

**fore-skin** /'fɔːskɪn/ || 'fɔːr-/ *n* a loose fold of skin covering the end of the PENIS (=the male sex organ)

**for-est** /'fɔːrɪst/ || 'fɔː-, 'fɑː-/ *n* [C;U] (a large area of land thickly covered with) trees and bushes: *A large part of Russia is made up of thick forest(s).* | *a pine forest* | *a clearing in the forest* | *a forest fire* | (fig.) *When the teacher asked the children an easy question, a forest of hands shot up.* —compare JUNGLE, WOOD; —see also RAIN FOREST

**fore-stall** /fɔː'stɔːl/ || fɔːr-/ *v* [T] to prevent, defeat, etc., (a person or their plans) by acting first: *We forestalled any attempt to steal the jewels by having them moved to a safer place.* | *I meant to meet my friend at the station, but she forestalled me/my plan by arriving on an earlier train and coming to the house.*

**fore-est-er** /'fɔːrɪstə/ || 'fɔː-, 'fɑː-/ *n* a person who works in or is in charge of a forest

**Forester, C S** (1899–1966) a British writer best-known for his stories about the Royal Navy in the days of sailing ships, esp. those about the character Captain Horatio Hornblower

**Forest Hills** /,fɔːrɪst/ || 'fɔː-/ *n* a town in New York state where tennis competitions are held

**for-est-ry** /'fɔːrɪstri/ || 'fɔː-, 'fɑː-/ *n* [U] the science of planting and caring for large areas of trees

**Forestry Com-mis-sion** /'fɔːrɪstri/ || 'fɔː-, 'fɑː-/ [the] an organization concerned with the care of trees in Britain, including the cutting down and replanting of trees, the control of DISEASES, and the providing of walks and camping grounds in forests

**fore-taste** /'fɔːteɪst/ || 'fɔːr-/ *n* [S (of)] a small early experience (of something that will come later): *The unusually warm spring day seemed like a foretaste of summer.*

**fore-tell** /fɔː'tel/ || fɔːr-/ *v* -told /'təʊld/ [T] to tell (what will happen in the future); PROPHECY: *The fortune-teller foretold the man's death.* [+that] *She foretold that the man would die.* [+wh-] *Who can foretell how the world will end?*

**fore-thought** /'fɔːθɔːt/ || 'fɔːr-/ *n* [U] wise planning for future needs; consideration of what is to come: *If you'd had the forethought to bring your raincoat, you wouldn't have got wet.*

**fore-ev-er** /fɔː'evə/ || fɔːr-/ *adv* 1 also **for ever** — for all future time: *When her son went to fight in the war, his mother felt she'd said goodbye to him forever.* | *I'll love you for ever and ever.* 2 (used only with verbs in progressive forms) continually and annoyingly: *The little boy is forever asking questions.* 3 **take forever** to take an extremely long time: *Go by underground — it'll take you forever if you go by bus.* 4 **forever and a day** an extremely long time: *It took me forever and a day to finish the assignment.* —see also **Diamonds are forever** (DIAMOND (1))

**fore-warn** /fɔː'wɔːn/ || fɔːr'wɔːrn/ *v* [T (of, against, about)]

to warn (someone) of coming danger, unpleasantness, etc.; advise (that something will happen or be done): *We were forewarned of/about the sudden collapse in shares.* [+obj+that] *They forewarned us that our first year in business would not be easy.* | *As I always say, forewarned is forearmed.* (=if you know about something in advance, you can be properly prepared to deal with it)

**fore-went** /fɔː'went/ || fɔːr-/ *past tense of FOREGO*

**fore-wom-an** /'fɔː,wʊmən/ || 'fɔːr-/ *n* -women /,wɪmɪn/ a female FOREMAN

**fore-word** /'fɔːwɜːd/ || 'fɔːrwɜːrd/ *n* a short introduction at the beginning of a book, esp. in which someone who knows the writer and their work says something about them — see PREFACE (USAGE)

**for-feit** /'fɔːfɪt/ || 'fɔːr-/ *v* [T] to have (something) taken away from one because some agreement or rule has been broken, or as a punishment, or as the result of some action: *If you don't return the article to the shop within a week, you forfeit your chance of getting your money back.* — ~able *adj* — ~er *n*

**forfeit** <sup>2</sup> *n* what must be lost or forfeited for something; price: *Some scientists who have studied dangerous substances have paid the forfeit of their lives in the cause of knowledge.*

**forfeit** <sup>3</sup> *adj* [F (to)] *fml* or *old use* taken from one by law as a punishment: *If a man put his country in danger by helping the enemy, his life and possessions were forfeit to the crown.*

**for-fei-ture** /'fɔːfɪtʃə/ || 'fɔːr-/ *n* [U (of)] *fml* forfeiting or being forfeited

**for-gath-er** /fɔː'gæðə/ || fɔːr-/ *v* [I] *fml* to gather together; meet, esp. in a friendly way

**for-gave** /fɔː'geɪv/ || fɔːr-/ *past tense of FORGIVE*

**forge** <sup>1</sup> /fɔːdʒ/ || fɔːrdʒ/ *v* [T] 1 to make a copy of (something) in order to deceive: *He got the money dishonestly, by forging his brother's signature on a cheque.* | *She tried to get into the country on a forged passport.* —see also FORGERY 2 to form by heating and hammering: *forging the links of a chain* | (fig.) *new efforts to forge unity in our political party* —compare WELD

**forge** <sup>2</sup> *n* 1 (a building or room containing) a large apparatus with a fire inside, used for heating and shaping metal objects: *Horseshoes are made in a blacksmith's forge.* 2 (a part of a factory containing) a large apparatus that produces great heat inside itself, used for melting metal, making iron, etc.

**forge** <sup>3</sup> *v* [I+adv/prep] to move with a sudden increase of speed and power: *One of the runners forged into the lead as they came round the last bend.* | (fig.) *She didn't do very well when she first went to school, but she's forged ahead in the last two years.*

**forg-er** /'fɔːdʒə/ || 'fɔːr-/ *n* a person who forges money, papers, etc.

**for-ge-ry** /'fɔːdʒəri/ || 'fɔːr-/ *n* [C;U] (something made by) forging (FORGE <sup>1</sup> (1)): *When he bought the picture he was told it was a Rubens, but he later found out that it was a forgery.* | *They were sent to prison for forgery.*

**for-get** /fə'get/ || fə-/ *v* -got /'gɒt/ || 'gɔːt/-, -gotten /'gɒtn/ || 'gɔːtn/ [not usu. in progressive forms] 1 [I;T] to fail to remember or keep in the memory: *Be there at five o'clock — don't forget!* | *I'm sorry, I've forgotten your name.* [+to-v] *Don't forget to bring the cases.* [+ (that)] *I'm sorry, I was forgetting (that) you don't like beans.* [+v-ing] *I'll never forget finding that rare old coin in my garden.* [+wh-] *I forget who said it.* | "What's her name?" "I forget." 2 [I (about); T] to fail to remember to do, bring, buy, etc. (something): *Don't forget the cases.* | "Did you lock the door when you left the house?" "No, I'm afraid I forgot (all) about it." 3 [I (about); T] to stop thinking about; put out of one's mind: *They agreed to forget their disagreements and be friends again.* | "I'm sorry I broke your teapot." "Forget it." (=It doesn't matter at all.) | "Our former neighbours came to see us yesterday." "I'd forgotten (all) about them." | *However hard he tried, he couldn't forget her.* | *Don't hold grudges against people who have hurt you; you should forgive and forget.* 4 [T] to fail to give attention to; treat with inattention: *He forgot his old friends when he became rich.* | "Don't forget me," said the little boy as his aunt was giving out jelly to the other children. 5 [T] to stop regarding (something) as a possibility; give



up (a plan): *If we can't get any financial backing, we might as well forget the whole thing.* **6** **forget oneself** to lose one's temper or self-control, or act in a way that is unsuitable or makes one look foolish: *The little girl annoyed him so much that he forgot himself and hit her.* **7** **lest we forget** *quote* a phrase from a work by Rudyard Kipling, used esp. on MEMORIALS to those people who died during the two World Wars

**for-get-ful** /fə'getfəl||fər-/ *adj* [(of)] having the habit of forgetting: *My aunt has become rather forgetful in her old age.* — *~ly adv* — *~ness n* [U]

**forget-me-not** /'fɒtəmə'not/ *n* a type of low-growing plant with small usu. pale blue flowers

**forg-ing** /'fɔ:dʒɪŋ||'fɔ:r-/ *n* a piece of forged (FORGE<sup>1</sup> (2)) metal

**for-giv-a-ble**, **-give-** /fə'gɪvəbəl||fər-/ *adj* (of a thing) that can be forgiven: *It was a forgivable mistake.* — *~bly adv*

**for-give** /fə'gɪv||fər-/ *v* **-gave** /'geɪv/, **-given** /'gɪvən/ **1** [I; T (for) not in progressive forms] to say or feel that one is no longer angry with (someone) or about (something); to say or feel that one no longer blames (someone) for (something): *I'm afraid I've smashed up your car — can you ever forgive me?* | *I'll never forgive you for what you said to me last night.* | *It's best to forgive and forget.* [+obj(i)+obj(d)] *He forgave her the awful things she said about him.* | (used to express annoyance, disagreement, etc.) *"Forgive me, Minister," said the interviewer, "but you haven't answered my question yet."* **2** **Father forgive them for they know not what they do** the words spoken by Christ in the Bible, asking God to forgive the people who were killing Him

**for-give-ness** /fə'gɪvnəs||fər-/ *n* [U] **1** [(of)] the act of forgiving or state of being forgiven: *He asked God's forgiveness for forgiveness of his wrong-doings.* **2** willingness to forgive

**for-giv-ing** /fə'gɪvɪŋ||fər-/ *adj* willing or able to forgive: *a gentle forgiving nature* — *~ly adv*

**for-go**, **fore-** /fɔ:'gəʊ||fɔ:r-/ *v* **-went** /'went/, **-gone** /'gɒn||'gɔ:n/ [T past tense rare] *fml* to give up; (be willing) not to have (esp. something pleasant): *You shouldn't forgo the opportunity of hearing a live concert.*

**for-got** /fə'gɒt||fər'gɔ:t/ *past tense of FORGET*

**for-got-ten** /fə'gɒtn||fər'gɔ:tn/ *past participle of FORGET*

**fork<sup>1</sup>** /fɔ:k||fɔ:rk/ *n* **1** an instrument for holding food or carrying it to the mouth, having a handle at one end with two or more points at the other, and usu. made of metal or plastic: *He picked up his knife and fork.* — see KNIFE (USAGE) and see picture at PLACE SETTING **2** a farm or gardening tool for breaking up the soil, lifting dried grass, etc., having a handle with two or more metal points at one end — see picture at GARDENING EQUIPMENT **3** a place where something divides into branches, or one of the divided parts: *We came to a fork in the road, and we couldn't decide whether to take the left fork or the right.* **4** also **forks pl.** — a pair of parallel metal points between which the front wheel of a bicycle, motorcycle, etc., is fixed — see picture at BICYCLE

**fork<sup>2</sup>** *v* **1** [T+obj+adv/prep] to lift, carry, move, or turn (soil, grass, etc.) with a fork: *Fork over the garden before you plant the peas.* **2** [I] (of something long and narrow) to divide into two or more parts: *You'll see our house on the left, just before the road forks.* **3** [I+adv/prep] (of a person) to take one fork of a road, path, etc.: *Fork left at the pub.*

**fork** (sthg. ↔) **out** *phr v* [I; T (for, on)] *infml* to pay (money) unwillingly: *I had to fork out £200 for my last telephone bill.*

**fork up** *phr v* [I (for) often imperative] *infml* to FORK out: *Come on, fork up!*

**forked** /fɔ:kt||fɔ:rkt/ *adj* [no comp.] **1** having one end divided into two or more points: *Snakes have forked tongues.* **2** **White man speaks with forked tongue** a phrase used in old WESTERN films, said by Native Americans when they believe a white man is not telling the truth

**forked light-ning** /,fɔ:'lɪŋtən/ *n* [U] lightning in the form of a line in the sky, usu. dividing into two or more parts near the bottom — compare SHEET LIGHTNING

**fork-lift truck** /,fɔ:k'lɪft 'trʌk||,fɔ:rk-/ *n* a small vehicle with a movable apparatus on the front used for lifting and lowering heavy goods — see picture at TRUCK

**for-lorn** /fə'lo:n||fər'lo:rn/ *adj* esp. *lit* or *fml* **1** (typical of one who is) left alone and unhappy: *She had a forlorn look (on her face).* — see ALONE (USAGE) **2** left empty and in poor condition: *a row of forlorn old buildings down by the port* — *~ly adv* — *~ness n* [U]

**forlorn hope** /'fɔ:lo:n 'həʊp/ *n* [S] a plan or attempt that is very unlikely to succeed

**form<sup>1</sup>** /fɔ:m||fɔ:rm/ *n* **1** [C; U] shape; outward appearance: *In the early morning light we could just make out/see the dark forms of the mountains.* | *The tall graceful form of a woman appeared at the top of the stairs.* | *Churches are often built in the form of (=shaped like) a cross.* **2** [C (of)] a general plan or arrangement; way something shows or expresses itself; kind or sort: *Different countries have different forms of government.* | *Name three forms of air travel.* | *This illness takes the form of (=shows itself as) high fever and sickness over a period of several days.* | *She dislikes any form of exercise.* | *There are two forms of the past of "to dream": "dreamed" and "dreamt".* | *I don't like sport in any shape or form.* (=of any kind) **3** [U] *tech* the way in which a work of art is put together: *Some writers are masters of form, but the content of their books isn't interesting.* **4** [U] (esp. in sport) degree of fitness, skill, etc., esp. as this influences performance or success: *"What kind of form is he in?"* (=How well is he playing?) *"He's been in bad form/out of form recently."* | *If it's really on form (esp. BrE)/in form (esp. AmE), this horse should win easily.* | *He was in great form/(also BrE) on great form (=in good spirits) at the party last night.* | *We were hoping to make a profit this year, but on present form (=judging by our present performance) that looks unlikely.* **5** [C] an official paper with spaces in which to answer questions and give other information: *If you wish to be considered for this job, you must fill in/fill up/fill out a form giving your age, name, experience, etc., and send it to the company.* | *Hand your completed form in at the desk.* | *I'm sorry, I don't understand (how to fill in) this form.* | *a badly-designed form* | *a visa application form* **6** [(the)U] the correct or usual custom or practice; PROCEDURE: *I'd like to join the library; what's the form?* (=what do I have to do?) | *I'll have to ask for your name and address, sir, but it's purely a matter of form.* **7** [U] *old-fash* behaviour as judged by accepted social standards; manners: *It is considered very bad form to arrive too early at a dinner party.* **8** [C] a class in a British school, and in some American schools: *Children who have just started school go into the first form; the oldest children are in the sixth form.* — compare GRADE<sup>1</sup> (2) **9** [C] BrE a long wooden seat, usu. without a back **10** [U] BrE *sl* a record of having been found guilty of crimes **11** **-former** BrE a pupil of the stated FORM (8): *a sixth-former*

**form<sup>2</sup>** *v* **1** [I; T] to come or bring gradually into existence; develop: *A cloud of smoke formed over the burning city.* | *A plan began to form in his mind.* | *I formed the impression that she was not being completely honest.* | *School helps to form a child's character.* **2** [T] to make or produce, esp. by combining parts: *The past tense of "cook" is formed by adding "-ed".* | *The leader of the winning party has been invited to form a government.* | *We used branches and leaves to form a rough shelter.* **3** [L+n] to take the shape of: *The school buildings formed a hollow square, with a playground in the middle.* **4** [L+n] to be; be the substance of; CONSTITUTE: *Flour, eggs, fat, and sugar form the main ingredients of a cake.* **5** [I+adv/prep; T] to (cause to) stand or move in (a certain order): *The men formed a chain to pass the goods from the carts to the boats.* | *The teacher formed her class into five groups.* | *The soldiers formed up into a line.*

**form-al<sup>1</sup>** /'fɔ:məl||'fɔ:r-/ *adj* **1** *a* based on or done according to correct or accepted rules, e.g. of social behaviour or official business: *As it's a formal dinner party, we will have to wear formal dress.* | *They told me on the phone that I could have the job, but I haven't yet had a formal offer.* *b* esp. *tech* (of words or a style of writing or speaking) suitable for official occasions, serious writing, etc., but not for ordinary conversation. Formal words or phrases are marked *fml* in this dictionary: *"Purchase" means the same as "buy", but it is more formal.* | *Government reports are usually written in formal language.*

► **CULTURAL NOTE** **Formal dress** usu. means a black DINNER JACKET, trousers, and BOW TIE for men, and a stylish dress which need not be long for women. ◀



**2** exact and correct in manner and behaviour: *He's very formal with everyone; he never joins in a laugh.* **3** having a set or regular shape: *a formal garden with straight paths and neat hedges* —opposite **informal** (for 1,2,3) **4** [no comp.] *fml* in outward appearance only: *There's only a formal resemblance between the two brothers — their characters are very different.* — **~ly adv**: *At the police station he was formally charged with murder.*

**formal**<sup>2</sup> *n* **AmE** a woman's formal dress: *The only time I ever wore that formal was to the junior prom.*

**for-ma-lin** /'fɔ:məlɪn/ 'fɔ:r-/ *n* [U] a liquid made by mixing the colourless gas **formaldehyde** with water, used for killing bacteria and keeping things clean, preserving dead bodies for science, making plastic, etc.

**form-al-is-m** /'fɔ:məlɪzəm/ 'fɔ:r-/ *n* [U] often *derog* (too great and exact an) obedience to rules and ceremonies, esp. in art and religion — **-ist n, adj**

**for-mal-i-ty** /fɔ:'mælɪti/ 'fɔ:r-/ *n* **1** [U] careful attention to rules and accepted forms of behaviour: *Even with close friends he observes a certain formality.* **2** [C] **a** an act in accordance with law or custom: *There are a few formalities to go through before you enter a foreign country, such as showing your passport.* **b** an act like this which has lost its real meaning: *The written part of the exam is just a formality; no one ever fails it.*

**for-mal-ize** also **-ise** **BrE** /'fɔ:məlaɪz/ 'fɔ:r-/ *v* [T] *fml* **1** to put (an agreement, plan, etc.) into clear usu. written form: *The agreement must be formalized before it can have the force of law.* **2** to introduce formality into (an occasion, event, etc.) — **-ization** /,fɔ:məlaɪ'zeɪʃən/ 'fɔ:rmələ-/ *n* [U]

**For-man** /'fɔ:mən/ 'fɔ:r-/ **Mi-los** /'mi:lɒs/ -ləʊʃ/ (1932– ) a Czech film director who has worked in the US since 1968. He is best known for his film *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*.

**for-mat**<sup>1</sup> /'fɔ:mæt/ 'fɔ:r-/ *n* **1** the size, shape, etc., in which something, esp. a book, is produced **2** the general plan or arrangement of something: *a new format for the six o'clock TV news* | *Official reports are usually written to a set format.*

**format**<sup>2</sup> *v* -tt- [T] to arrange (a book, computer information, etc.) in a particular format

**for-ma-tion** /fɔ:'meɪʃən/ 'fɔ:r-/ *n* **1** [U] the shaping or developing of something: *Damp conditions are needed for the formation of mould.* | *School life has a great influence on the formation of a child's character.* **2** [C;U] (an) arrangement of people, ships, aircraft, etc.; order: *The soldiers were drawn up in battle formation.* (=in the correct position to begin a battle) | *a team of aircraft that does formation flying* (=flying that makes patterns in the sky) **3** [C;U] a thing which is formed or the way in which it is formed: *several kinds of cloud formations* | *Geologists study rock formation.* —see also **BACK FORMATION**

**for-ma-tive** /'fɔ:mətɪv/ 'fɔ:r-/ *adj* [A] having influence in forming or developing: *Parents have the greatest formative effect on their children's behaviour.* | *The child's in her formative years.* (=the time when her character is formed) — **~ly adv**

**Form-by** /'fɔ:mbɪ/ 'fɔ:rm-/ **George** (1904–61) an English COMEDIAN of MUSIC HALL and films from the North of England. He often acted as a rather stupid common man and sang humorous songs while playing the UKELELE (=a type of musical instrument with strings).

**for-mer**<sup>1</sup> /'fɔ:mə/ 'fɔ:r-/ *adj* [A *no comp.*] of an earlier period: *her former husband* | *In former times people were hanged for stealing in Britain.* | *He made us laugh all the evening; he seemed more like his former self.* (=as he was before he was changed by trouble, age, illness, etc.)

**former**<sup>2</sup> *adj, n* **former** [A *no comp.*;C] rather *fml* the first (of two people or things just mentioned): *Of Nigeria and Ghana, the former (country) has the larger population.* | *Of the two possibilities, the former seems more likely.* — opposite **latter**

**for-mer-ly** /'fɔ:məli/ 'fɔ:rməli/ *adv* in earlier times: *Peru was formerly ruled by the Spanish.* | *Formerly he worked in a factory, but now he's a teacher.*

**For-mi-ca** /fɔ:'mɪkə/ 'fɔ:r-/ *n* [U] *tdmk* (often *not cap.*) a strong plastic made in thin sheets, used for making the top surface of tables and other articles of furniture

**for-mic ac-id** /,fɔ:mɪk 'æsɪd/ 'fɔ:r-/ *n* [U] an acid obtained

from ants, and now also produced artificially, used esp. in colouring cloth and making leather

**for-mi-da-ble** /'fɔ:mɪdəbəl, fə'mɪd-/ 'fɔ:r-,fər-/ *adj* **1** very great and frightening; causing anxiety, fearful respect, etc.: *He has a formidable voice.* (=very loud) | *His mother is a most formidable lady.* **2** difficult to defeat or deal with; needing much effort to succeed against: *a formidable enemy* | *They climbed the last part of the mountain in formidable weather conditions.* | *The examination paper contained several formidable questions.* — **-bly adv**

**form-less** /'fɔ:mləs/ 'fɔ:rm-/ *adj* **1** without shape: *a strange formless creature* **2** *usu. derog* lacking order or arrangement: *The experimental music was rather formless.* — **~ly adv** — **-ness n** [U]

**form let-ter** /'fɔ:mlətər/ 'fɔ:r-/ *n* a standard letter that is sent to a number of people, with details such as name and address added

**form of ad-dress** /,fɔ:m əv 'ædres/ 'fɔ:r-/ *n* **forms of address** the correct, polite title to be used when speaking or writing to someone: *"Your Majesty" is the form of address used with the queen.* | *What form of address is appropriate when speaking to a bishop?*

**form room** /'fɔ:rm ru:m/ **BrE** || **homeroom** **AmE** — *n* the classroom used by the pupils in the same form<sup>1</sup> (8) where the teacher takes the attendance and discusses various social or ADMINISTRATIVE matters

**form teach-er** /'fɔ:rm ti:tʃər/ 'fɔ:r-/ **BrE** || **homeroom teacher** **AmE** — *n* the teacher responsible for the pupils of one form<sup>1</sup> (8), often dealing with personal and social matters as well as teaching them: *Talk to your form teacher if you have any problems.*

**for-mu-la** /'fɔ:mjʊlə/ 'fɔ:rm-/ *n* -las or -lae /li:/ **1** [C (for)] *tech* a general law, rule, fact, etc., expressed in a short form by means of a group of letters, signs, numbers, etc.: *The chemical formula for water is H<sub>2</sub>O.* | *There is a special formula for calculating distance, if speed and time are known.* **2** [C (for)] a list of the esp. chemical substances used in making a medicine, a FUEL, a drink, etc., sometimes also including a description of how they are to be mixed: *Someone has stolen the secret formula for the new drink.* —compare **RECIPE** **3** [C (for)] a method or set of principles used for gaining a particular result: *The two sides worked out an acceptable formula* (=combination of suggestions, plans, etc.) *for settling the strike.* | *A good education and hard work seems to be a formula for success.* (=they will almost certainly lead to success) **4** [C] (before a number) a particular type of racing car or car race: *Formula One cars are the most powerful.* | *a formula 5000 race* **5** [U] **AmE** liquid milk-like food for babies

**for-mu-la-ic** /,fɔ:mjʊ'leɪɪk/ 'fɔ:rm-/ *adj fml or tech* containing or made up of fixed expressions or set forms of words: *formulaic poetry* — **~ly adv**

**Formula One** /,fɔ:mjʊ'leɪɪk/ 'fɔ:rm-/ *n* [U] a type of car racing which uses expensive, purpose-built cars and competes in GRAND PRIX events: *a Formula One racing car*

**for-mu-late** /'fɔ:mjʊleɪt/ 'fɔ:rm-/ *v* [T] **1** to express in an exact way; **FRAME**: *He took care to formulate his reply very clearly.* **2** to invent and prepare (a plan, suggestion, etc.): *The government is trying to formulate a new policy on Northern Ireland.* — **-lation** /,fɔ:mjʊ'leɪʃən/ 'fɔ:rm-/ *n* [C;U]

**for-ni-cate** /'fɔ:nɪkeɪt/ 'fɔ:r-/ *v* [I] *esp. law or bibl* to have sexual relations with someone to whom one is not married — **-cation** /,fɔ:nɪ'keɪʃən/ 'fɔ:r-/ *n* [U]

**for-sake** /fə'seɪk/ 'fər-/ *v* -sook /'suk/, -saken /'seɪkən/ [T] *lit or bibl* to desert; leave for ever; give up completely: *She forsook her worldly possessions to devote herself to the church.* | *In the mist and rain the little village had a forsaken look about it.*

**for sale** /fɔ:'seɪl/ 'fər-/ *adj* (often *cap.*) offered to be sold, esp. by a private owner: *There's a "For Sale" sign outside their house.* —see also **SALE**

**for-sooth** /fə'su:θ/ 'fər-/ *adv* *old use* indeed; certainly; in truth

**For-ster** /'fɔ:stər/ 'fɔ:r-/ **E M** (1879–1970) an English writer of stories who is best known for his NOVELS *Howards End* and *A Passage to India*, and *Room With a View*. Several of his novels have been made into films.

**for-swear** /fɔ:'swɛə/ 'fɔ:r-/ *v* -swore /'swɔ:ɹ/ -sworn /'swɔ:n/ 'swɔ:rn/ [T] *fml* to make a solemn promise to give



up or to stop doing (something): *The priests of some religions must forswear possessions and marriage.* [+v-ing] *He forswore drinking.*

**For-syte Sa-ga** /'fɔːsaɪt ,sæɡə||'fɔːr-/ **The** a long story by John Galsworthy, told in three books, about the Forsythe family. It was made into a television **SERIES** (=set of programmes) in the 1960s.

**For-syth** /'fɔːsaɪθ||'fɔːr-/ **Bruce** (1928– ) an English **COMEDIAN** and presenter of game shows on television, esp. the "Generation Game". He is known esp. for saying "Nice to see you, to see you nice!"

**For-syth** /fɔː'saɪθ||fɔːr-/ **Fred-e-ric** /'fredərik/ (1938– ) an English writer of exciting stories of crimes and violence. His books include *The Day of the Jackal* and *The Dogs of War* which have been made into films.

**for-sy-thi-a** /fɔː'saɪθiə||fɔːr-/ **n** [U] a bush that produces bright yellow flowers before its leaves appear

**fort** /fɔːt||fɔːr/ **n** a strongly made building or set of buildings used for defence at some important place; castle – see also **hold the fort** (**HOLD**¹)

**for-te¹** /'fɔːteɪ||fɔːr/ **n** [*usu. sing.*] a strong point in a person's character or abilities: *Games are his forte; he plays cricket and football unusually well.*

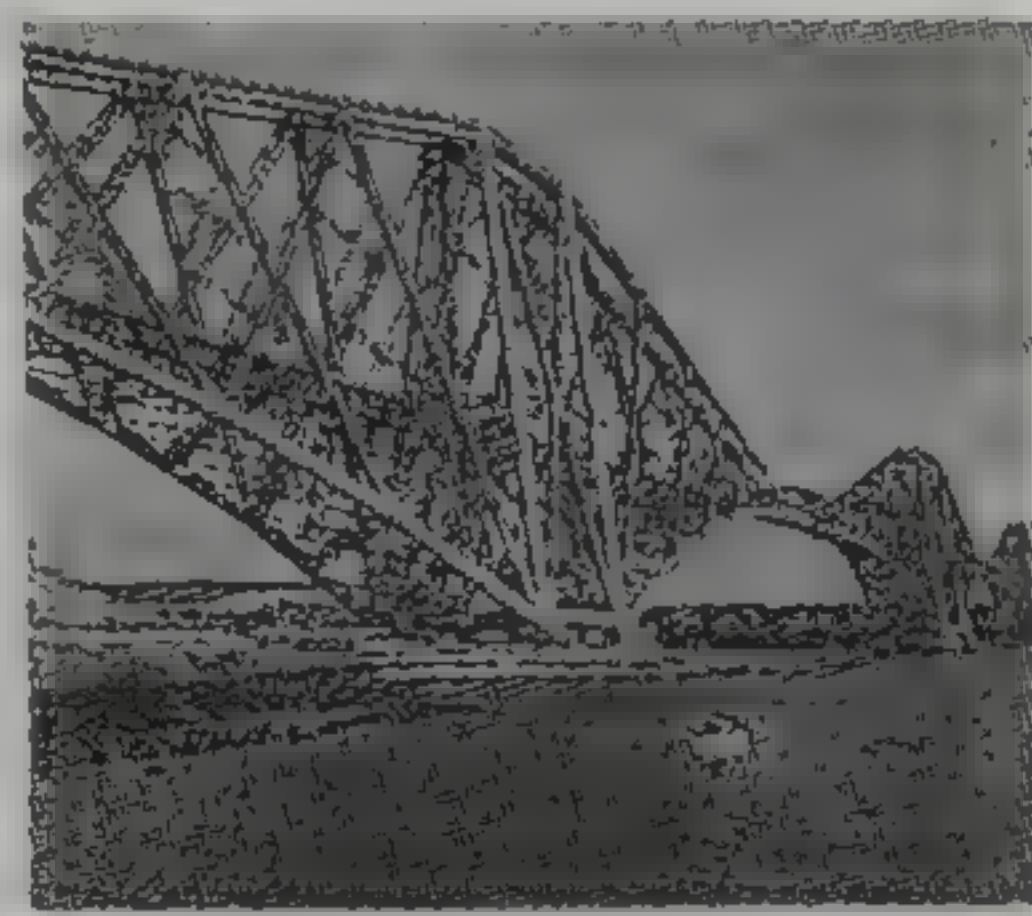
**for-te²** /'fɔːteɪ||'fɔːr/ **n, adj, adv** (a piece of music) played loudly – compare **PIANO**²

**forth** /fɔːθ||fɔːrθ/ **adv** esp. *bibl* or *lit* **1** (after a verb) out; forward: *He went forth into the desert to pray.* **2** on into the future: *From that day forth, the lovers were never parted.* – see also **BRING forth, and so forth** (**AND**)

**Forth** [*the*] a river in S central Scotland which flows into the Firth of Forth and the North Sea

**Forth Bridge** /,fɔːrθ brɪdʒ/ [*the*] **1** a railway bridge built in the late 19th century over the Firth of Forth, considered to be a great **ENGINEERING** achievement of its day **2** a road bridge built in 1964 next to the railway bridge. It is one of the longest **SUSPENSION BRIDGES** in the world. **3** **like painting the Forth Bridge** *BrE* having no end; having to start again at the beginning as soon as one finishes: *Feeding this family is like painting the Forth Bridge.*

the Forth railway bridge



**forth-com-ing** /,fɔːθ'kʌmɪŋ-||,fɔːrθ-/ **adj** **1** [*no comp.*] happening or appearing in the near future: *On the notice-board there was a list of forthcoming events at school.* **2** [*F no comp.; usu. in negatives*] ready; supplied; offered when needed: *When she was asked why she was late, no answer was forthcoming.* **3** [*usu. in negatives*] *infml* ready to be helpful and friendly: *I asked several villagers the way to the river, but none of them was very forthcoming.*

**forth-right** /'fɔːθraɪt||'fɔːrθ-/ **adj** (too) direct in manner and speech; expressing one's thoughts and feelings plainly; **FRANK**: *She made the point in her usual forthright manner.* – ~ **ness** **n** [U]

**forth-with** /fɔːθ'wɪð, -'wɪθ||fɔːrθ-/ **adv** *fml* at once; without delay

**for-ties** /'fɔːtiz||'fɔːr-/ **n** **1** [*the*] also '40s – the 1940s (=the years from 1940 to 1949): *The forties were dominated by the Second World War.* **2** **in his/her/their forties** aged from 40 to 49: *She remarried in her early forties.* **3** [*the*] the numbers from 40 to 49, esp. when used to measure temperature

**for-ti-eth** /'fɔːtiəθ||'fɔːr-/ **determiner, n, pron, adv** 40th – see **TABLE 1**

**for-ti-fi-ca-tion** /,fɔːtɪfɪ'keɪʃən||,fɔːr-/ **n** **1** [*C usu. pl.*] towers, walls, gun positions, etc., set up as a means of defence **2** [U] the act or science of fortifying

**for-ti-fy** /'fɔːtɪfaɪ||'fɔːr-/ **v** [T] **1** to build forts on; strengthen against possible attack: *a fortified city* | *They fortified the coastal areas.* **2** to make stronger, more effective, etc.: *This breakfast cereal is fortified with vitamins.* | *Sherry is a fortified wine.* (=a wine with strong alcohol added) – **fiable** **adj** – **fier** **n**

**for-ti-tude** /'fɔːtɪtjuːd||'fɔːrɪtjuːd/ **n** [U] firm and lasting

courage in bearing trouble, pain, etc., without complaining: *She bore her illness with great fortitude.*

**Fort Knox** /,fɔːt'knɒks||'fɔːr-/ a military **FORT** in Kentucky which holds the US's gold **BULLION**. It is known for being heavily guarded and impossible to break into: *His house is like Fort Knox.*

**fort-night** /'fɔːtnaɪt||'fɔːr-/ **n** [*usu. sing.*] *BrE* two weeks: *I'm going away for a fortnight's holiday.* | *I see them about once a fortnight.* (=once every two weeks) | *He's coming in a fortnight's time.* (=two weeks from today) | *Her birthday is Tuesday fortnight.* (=two weeks later than next Tuesday)

**fort-night-ly** /'fɔːtnaɪtli||'fɔːr-/ **adj, adv** *BrE* (happening, appearing; etc.) every fortnight or once a fortnight: *a fortnightly visit* | *She is paid fortnightly.*

**Fort-num and Ma-son** /,fɔːtnəm ənd 'meɪsən||,fɔːr-/ a famous department store in Piccadilly in London which sells quality goods and is thought of being a place where rich people go for afternoon tea

**For-tran** /'fɔːtræn||'fɔːr-/ **n** [U] a high-level computer language, mainly for scientific use

**fort-tress** /'fɔːtrɪs||'fɔːr-/ **n** a large **FORT**; place strengthened for defence: *The army stormed the fortress and occupied it.* | *a fortress town*

**for-tu-i-tous** /fɔː'tjuːɪtəs||fɔːr'tuː-/ **adj** **1** *fml* happening by chance; accidental: *Our meeting was quite fortuitous.* **2** *nonstandard* fortunate; lucky – ~ **ly** **adv** – ~ **ness** **n** [U]

**for-tu-nate** /'fɔːtʃənət||'fɔːr-/ **adj** having or bringing a good condition or situation; lucky: *He's fortunate to have/in having a good job.* | *It was fortunate for her that her husband arrived at that moment.* | *He came at a very fortunate time.* | *She's fortunate enough to have very good health.* – opposite **unfortunate**

**for-tu-nate-ly** /'fɔːtʃənətli||'fɔːr-/ **adv** by good chance; luckily: *I was late in getting to the station, but fortunately for me, the train was late too.* | *Fortunately, the fire was discovered soon after it had started.* – opposite **unfortunately**

**for-tune** /'fɔːtʃən||'fɔːr-/ **n** **1** [*C*] a great amount of money, possessions, etc.: *He dreamed of making a/his fortune.* | *She won a fortune in a lottery.* | *This family made their fortune in/from computers.* | *That diamond necklace she was wearing must be worth a fortune.* | (*infml*) *I seem to have spent an absolute fortune on food this week!* – see also **SMALL FORTUNE** **2** [U] chance, esp. as an important influence on a person's life; fate: *She had the (great) good fortune to be free from illness all her life.* | (*fml*) **Fortune smiled on their enterprise.** (=everything went well for it) **3** [*C usu. pl.*] whatever happens by chance, good or bad: *Through all his changing fortunes, he never lost courage.* | *The fortunes of war bring death to many, while others escape unharmed.* – see also **SOLDIER OF FORTUNE** **4** [*C*] what will happen to a person in the future: *That old gipsy woman tells fortunes.* (=claims to tell people about their futures by examining their hands, studying a pack of cards, a glass ball, etc.) | *I had my fortune told last week.* – see also **seek one's fortune** (**SEEK**)

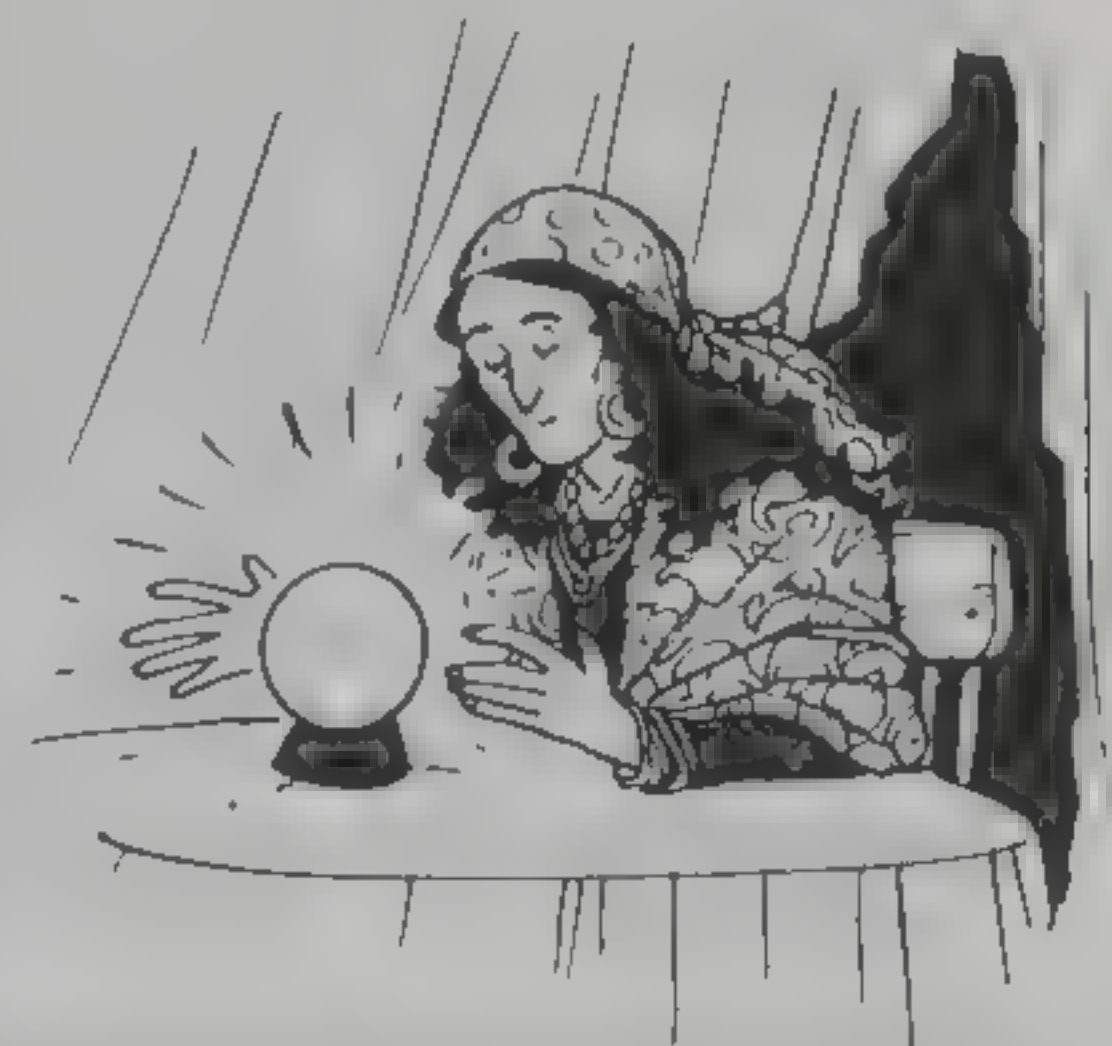
**fortune cook-ie** /'fɔːtʃən'kiː||'fɔːr-/ **n** *AmE* a **BISCUIT** which contains a piece of paper telling what is going to happen in the future or a humorous statement. They are typically provided at the end of a meal in Chinese restaurants.

**Fortune 500** /,fɔːtʃən faɪv'hʌndrɪd||,fɔːr-/ **n, adj** [*the*] the 500 largest **CORPORATIONS** in the US, as they appear in the yearly list in *Fortune* magazine. It is considered **PRESTIGIOUS** (=deserving respect and admiration) to be included in this group: *She's a VP at a Fortune 500 company.*

**fortune hunt-er** /'fɔːtʃən'hʌntə||'fɔːr-/ **n** *usu. derog* a person who tries to marry someone for their money – see also **GOLD DIGGER** (1)

**fortune-tell-er** /'fɔːtʃən'telə||'fɔːr-/ **n** a person who claims to be able to tell people what will happen to them in the future. The **STEREOTYPE** of a fortune teller is of a woman wearing a colourful **SCARF** on her head and large **EARRINGS**. She looks into a **CRYSTAL BALL** to see what is going to happen

fortune teller





in the future and she asks people for money by asking them to "cross my palm with silver". —compare PALMIST

**Fort Worth** /,fɔːtɪ/ a city in N Texas, in the US, known as an industrial centre, esp. for oil and gas. Its airport, which it shares with nearby Dallas, is one of the largest in the world. —see colour map on pages 1374–5

**for-ty** /'fɔːti/ *determiner, n, pron* 1 (the number) 40 —see TABLE 1 2 **life begins at forty** saying you can begin to enjoy life at the age of forty

**forty-five** /,fɔːtɪ/ *n infml* 1 also 45, **Colt 45 tdmk** —a small gun held in the hand (PISTOL). The inside of its barrel is 0.45 of an INCH wide. 2 also 45— a small record, usu. with only one song on each side, that is played by causing it to turn round 45 times every minute —compare SEVENTY-EIGHT

**Forty-five** [the] the REBELLION in Scotland in 1745 led by Prince Charles Edward Stuart to try to bring back the Stuarts as the ruling family in Britain. They had been forced to leave the country in 1688 after the Glorious Revolution.

**forty-nin-er** /,fɔːtɪ/ *n* a person who took part in the GOLD RUSH to California in 1849

**Forty-Second Street, 42nd Street** /,fɔːtɪ/ *a street* in New York City where there are many theatres. A very popular MUSICAL<sup>2</sup>, also called **42nd Street**, is still performed from time to time and was made into a film. This helped to connect 42nd Street with the excitement of life in the theatre.

**Forty Thieves** /,fɔːtɪ/ [the] see ALI BABA

**forty winks** /,fɔːtɪ/ *n* [P] *infml* a short sleep in the daytime: *Mum always has forty winks after lunch.*

**for-um** /'fɔːrəm/ *n* 1 (in ancient Rome) an open place used for public business 2 a [(for)] a place where public matters may be talked over and argued about: *The letters page of this newspaper is a forum for public argument.* b a meeting for such a purpose: *They're holding a forum on new ways of teaching history.*

**for-ward**<sup>1</sup> /'fɔːwəd/ *adv* 1 towards the front, the end, or the future: *The soldiers crept forward under cover of darkness.* | *to bend/step/edgelfall forward* | *They never met again from that day forward.* | *to put the clock forward* (=so that it shows a later time) | *Their plans are going forward satisfactorily.* —see LOOK forward to 2 towards an earlier time: *We'll bring the date of the meeting forward from the 20th to the 18th.* 3 into a noticeable position: *The lawyer brought forward some new evidence.* | *to push oneself forward* —compare BACKWARDS

**forward**<sup>2</sup> *adj* 1 [A no comp.] at or directed towards the front, the end, or the future: *a forward movement* | *the forward part of the train* | *forward planning* 2 [often negative] advanced or early in development: *We aren't very far forward with our plans yet.* 3 too confident; too sure of oneself: *That young lady is rather forward; she's introducing herself to all the guests.* —compare BACKWARD

**forward**<sup>3</sup> *v* [T] 1 [(to)] to send forward or pass on (letters, parcels, etc.) to a new address: *When we moved, we asked the people who took our old house to forward all our mail to our new address.* | *The man who left yesterday didn't leave a forwarding address, so I don't know where to send this letter that's come for him.* 2 [(to)] *fml* to send: *We will forward the goods when we receive your cheque.* [+obj(i)+obj(d)] *We are forwarding you a copy of our latest catalogue under separate cover.* 3 *fml* to help advance the development of: *We are doing all we can to forward the progress of the talks.*

**for-ward**<sup>4</sup> /'fɔːwəd/ *adv naut* in or towards the front part of a ship: *We moved the cargo forward of the mast.* —compare AFT

**for-ward**<sup>5</sup> /'fɔːwəd/ *n* 1 (in sports such as football) one of the attacking players in a team —compare BACK<sup>1</sup> (6), CENTRE<sup>1</sup> (5) 2 in BASKETBALL, one of two players on a team who usually play nearest the basket

**forward-look-ing** /'fɔːwəd/ *adj* *apprec* planning for or concerned with the future; PROGRESSIVE: *a dynamic forward-looking little company*

**for-ward-ly** /'fɔːwədli/ *adv* in a FORWARD<sup>2</sup> (3) manner

**forward mar-ket** /'fɔːwəd/ *also futures market— n* a market

in which contracts are made to buy and sell products at a future date at an agreed price

**for-ward-ness** /'fɔːwədness/ *n* [U] the state or quality of being FORWARD<sup>1</sup> (2, 3)

**for-wards** /'fɔːwədz/ *adv* FORWARD<sup>1</sup>

**for-went, fore-** /fɔː'went/ *past tense of FORGO*

**Fos-bu-ry flop** /,fɔzbəri 'flɒp/ *n* (in sport) a TECHNIQUE of high jumping (HIGH JUMP) by bending the back and jumping over the bar backwards

**Fosse Way** /,fɒs 'wei/ *[the]* a famous road between Lincoln and Exeter built by the Romans

**fos-sil**<sup>1</sup> /'fɒsəl/ *n* 1 a hardened part or print of an animal or plant that died many thousands of years ago, that has been preserved in rock, ice, etc.: *to go fossil hunting* | *The ginkgo tree is a living fossil* (=a plant or animal that has remained unchanged for many thousands of years) 2 *humor or derog* an (old) person with unchanging ideas or habits (esp. in the phrase **old fossil**) —see also LIVING FOSSIL

**fossil**<sup>2</sup> *adj* [A] 1 being or in the condition of a fossil: *a fossil seashell* 2 made of substances that were living things many thousands of years ago: *Coal is a fossil fuel.*

**fos-sil-ize** *also -ise* *BrE* /'fɒsɪlaɪz/ *v* [I;T] to (cause to) become a fossil: *animal remains fossilized in the rocks of the valley* | (fig.) *fossilized ideas* (=fixed ideas which do not change or develop) —ization /,fɒsɪlaɪ'zeɪʃən/ *n* [U]

**fos-ter** /'fɒstə/ *v* [T] 1 to take (someone else's child) into one's family for a certain period only, and without taking on the full legal responsibilities of the parent: *We fostered the little girl for several months while her mother was in hospital.* —compare ADOPT 2 *fml* to help (feelings or ideas) to grow or develop: *We hope these meetings will help foster friendly relations between our two countries.* | *The captain did his best to foster a sense of unity among the new recruits.*

► **CULTURAL NOTE** Children are often fostered when their parents cannot look after them because of illness, difficult behaviour, or because the children are not cared for properly or treated badly. Foster parents receive some money towards the care of the child but have no legal rights over the child who may return to the natural parents. ◀

**Foster, Norman** (1935– ) an English ARCHITECT

**Foster, Ste-phen** /'stɪvən/ (1826–64) American songwriter remembered for his many popular songs known to most Americans such as *Oh Susanna* and *Camptown Races*

**foster-** see WORD FORMATION

**Fou-cault** /'fʊkəʊ/ *Jean Ber-nard Lé-on* /ʒɒn 'beənɑː'leɪɒn/ (1819–68) a French PHYSICIST who studied the speed of light. He is known for **Foucault's Pendulum** which showed the earth's movement round a fixed point, and for his invention of the GYROSCOPE.

**fought** /fɔːt/ *past tense & participle of FIGHT*<sup>1</sup>

**foul**<sup>1</sup> /faʊl/ *adj* 1 often *infml* very bad or unpleasant: *There's a foul smell in here!* | *She was in a foul temper.* | *foul language* (=full of curses) 2 very dirty; unclean; impure: *The air in this room is foul; open the window!* 3 (of weather) rough; stormy: *It's a foul night tonight.* 4 *lit* very bad; evil; cruel: *a foul deed* | *They are determined to win the election by fair means or foul.* (=in any way they can, using honest or dishonest methods) —see also **fall foul of** (FALL<sup>1</sup>), **murder most foul** (MURDER) — ~ *ly adv* — ~ *ness n* [U]

**foul**<sup>2</sup> *n* [(against, on)] (in sports) an act that is against the rules: *The footballer was sent off the field for a foul against an opponent; he had kicked him.*

**foul**<sup>3</sup> *v* 1 [I;T] (in sports, esp. football) to be guilty of a foul: *He was sent off for fouling the other team's goalkeeper.* 2 [T] *fml* to make dirty with waste or impure matter: *Anyone whose dog fouls the footpath will be fined.* 3 [I;T] *esp. naut* (of a rope, chain, etc.) to get mixed up or twisted with (something)

**foul out** *phr v* [I] in sports (such as BASKETBALL), to be made to stop playing because of making too many fouls: *He fouled out in the fourth quarter.*

**foul sthg.** ↔ **up** *phr v* [T] *infml* to spoil (an occasion, etc.): *He fouled things up, as usual!* | *The bad weather completely fouled up our plans for the weekend.* —see also FOUL-UP



**foul ball** /fɒlˈbɔːl/ *n* in sports, such as BASEBALL, a ball that has landed outside the border of the playing area —see also OUT-OF-BOUNDS

**foul-mouthed** /fɒlˈmaʊθd/ *adj derog* (habitually) writing or esp. speaking, using language that is full of angry swearing, and that therefore offends people

**foul play** /fɒlˈpleɪ/ *n* [U] 1 (in sports) unfair play; actions that are against the rules 2 *tech* criminal violence, esp. in association with a person's death; murder: *The police aren't sure how the man died, but they suspect foul play.*

**foul-up** /fɒlˈʊp/ *n infml* a state of confusion caused by carelessness or lack of skill —see also FOUL<sup>3</sup> up

**found**<sup>1</sup> /faʊnd/ *past tense & participle of FIND*<sup>1</sup>

**found**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T] 1 to start the building or development of; establish: *The Romans founded a great city on the banks of this river.* | *The company was founded in 1955.* 2 to start and support by supplying money: *The rich man founded a hospital and a school in the town where he was born.* 3 [(on, upon) often pass.] to provide with a base: *The castle is founded on solid rock.* | (fig.) *Is the story a complete invention, or is it founded on fact?* —see also FOUNDATION

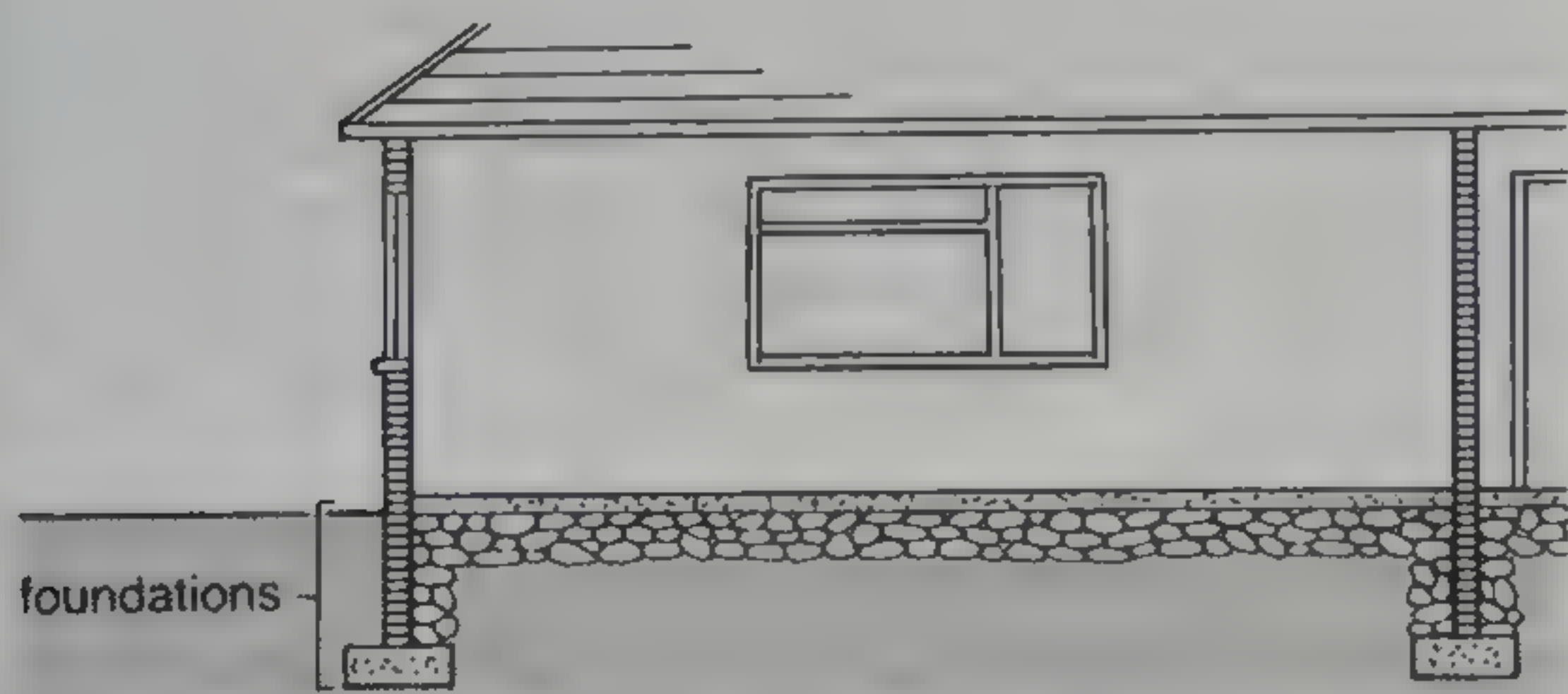
**found**<sup>3</sup> *v* [T] 1 to melt (metal) and pour into a MOULD —see also FOUNDRY 2 to make (something) of metal in this way

**foun-da-tion** /faʊnˈdeɪʃən/ *n* 1 [U] the act of founding a city, hospital, organization, etc.: *The university has been famous for medical studies ever since its foundation.* 2 [U] the fact or principle on which something is based; BASIS: *The rumour was completely without foundation/had no foundation in fact.* (=was untrue) 3 [C] (often cap. as part of a name) an organization that gives out money for certain special purposes: *The Gulbenkian Foundation gives money to help artists.* 4 [C] a building and the organization connected with it, established and supported in some special way: *This school is an ancient foundation.* 5 [C;U] also **foundation cream** /ˈfaʊnˌdeɪʃənˈkriːm/ a mixture of oils and other substances that is rubbed into the skin of the face before face powder is put on —see also FOUNDATIONS

**foundation course** /ˈfaʊnˌdeɪʃənˈkɔːrs/ *n* a course of study covering a usu. wide range of subjects, such as one that is taught in the first year in some universities

**foundation garment** /ˈfaʊnˌdeɪʃənˈɡɑːmənt/ *n old fash* an article of underclothing worn by women, shaped so as to press the body into shape and make it look thinner —see also FOUNDATIONS

foundations



**foun-da-tions** /faʊnˈdeɪʃənz/ *n* [P] 1 the solid stonework, brickwork, etc., first set in holes dug deep in the earth, to support a building: *The workmen are laying the foundations of the new hospital.* | *The explosion shook the building to its foundations.* (=caused it to shake dangerously) | (fig.) *He laid the foundations of his success by study and hard work.* 2 *AmE old use* women's UNDERGARMENTS that press the body into shape and make it look thinner: *Foundations are on the third floor, next to the cosmetics department.*

**foundation stone** /ˈfaʊnˌdeɪʃənˈstəʊn/ *n* a large block of stone, on which words are usually cut, which is laid in the foundations of a building, often with a public ceremony —compare CORNERSTONE

**found-er**<sup>1</sup> /ˈfaʊndə/ *n* a person who establishes a school, hospital, organization, etc.: *King Henry was the founder of Trinity College, Cambridge.*

**founder**<sup>2</sup> *v* [I] *lit or fml* 1 (of a ship) to fill with water and sink: *The ship foundered in the heavy seas.* 2 to come to

nothing; fail: *The plan was a good one, but it foundered for lack of support.*

**founder mem-ber** /ˈfaʊndəˈmɛmbə/ *BrE* || **founding member** *AmE*—*n* one of the first members who helped to establish an organization, club, etc.

**founding fa-ther** /ˈfaʊndɪŋˈfɑːðə/ *n* [often pl.] *lit or fml* a person who begins the development of something; FOUNDER: *Louis Pasteur was one of the founding fathers of modern medicine.*

**Founding Fa-thers** /ˈfaʊndɪŋˈfɑːðəz/ *n* [the +P] the group of men, including George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, and others, who wrote the US Constitution and Bill of Rights and thus started the US as a country: *The Founding Fathers conceived of Congress acting to promote "the general welfare", not to advantage any one group and disadvantage another.*

**founding mem-ber** /ˈfaʊndɪŋˈmɛmbə/ *n* *AmE* for FOUNDER MEMBER

**found-ling** /ˈfaʊndlɪŋ/ *n* *esp. lit* an unknown young child left by its parents and found by others

**foun-dry** /ˈfaʊndri/ *n* a place where metals are melted down and poured into shapes to make separate articles or parts of machinery, such as bars, wheels, etc.: *an iron foundry* | *foundry workers*

**fount**<sup>1</sup> /faʊnt/ *n* [(of)] *esp. lit* the place where something begins or comes from; SOURCE: *That old man is a fount of wisdom.* (=is full of wise thoughts and words)

**fount**<sup>2</sup> /font, faʊnt/ || /fɔːnt, faʊnt/ also **font**—*n* *tech* a complete set of letters (TYPE) of one kind and size for printing books, newspapers, etc.

**foun-tain** /ˈfaʊntɪn/ *n* 1 a usu. decorative structure, often set in a lake or pool, which produces a stream of water that rises into the air: *The parks of this city are famous for their spectacular/ornate fountains.* 2 [(of)] a flow of liquid, esp. rising straight into the air: *A fountain of water shot up from the burst pipe.* —see also DRINKING FOUNTAIN, SODA FOUNTAIN

**Fountain of Youth** /ˈfaʊntənˈoʊˌjuːθ/ [the] in old stories, a flow of water which was believed to make anyone who drank from it stay young forever

**fountain pen** /ˈfaʊntənˈpen/ *n* a pen with a metal point (NIB) and a container giving a continuous supply of ink as one writes

**Fountains Ab-bey** /ˈfaʊntənˈæbi/ a 12th-century Benedictine ABBEY in NE England, now a ruin

**four** /fɔːr/ *determiner, n, pron* 1 (the number) 4 —see TABLE 1 on page 0000 2 something which has four units or members: *Will you make up a four for a game of cards?* (=complete the group of four people) | *He drove up in a coach and four.* (=a COACH pulled by four horses) 3 (in cricket) four RUNS (8a), usu. gained by hitting the ball to the edge of the field: *He hit a four.* 4 **the four corners of the earth** the most distant parts of the world 5 **on all fours** down on one's hands and knees: *He was crawling around on all fours.* —see also scatter to the four winds (SCATTER<sup>1</sup>)

**four-eyes** /ˈfɔːraɪz/ *n infml* (used as a humorous or rude way of addressing a person who wears glasses)

**4-F** /ˈfɔːrˈef/ *adj, n* *AmE* (of or being) a person considered unsuitable for military service because of poor health or HOMOSEXUALITY: *He got a 4-F from the draft board.* | *He's 4-F.*

**Four Free-doms** /ˈfɔːrˈfriːdəmz/ [(the)] four things that president Franklin Roosevelt said were worth fighting for, in a speech he gave in 1941 before the US entered the Second World War. They are Freedom of Speech and Expression, Freedom of Worship, Freedom from Want, and Freedom from Fear.

**4GL** /ˈfɔːrˈdʒiːˈel/ || /ˈfɔːr-/ *n* FOURTH-GENERATION LANGUAGE

**4H, 4-H** /ˈfɔːrˈeɪtʃ/ a programme paid for by the government in RURAL (=outside cities) areas of the US that helps young people learn useful skills

**Four Horse-men of the A-poc-a-lypse** /ˈfɔːrˈhɔːsmənˌəvˌəpɒkəˈlɪps/ [the+P] figures from the Bible representing war, FAMINE, death, and PESTILENCE, the four things which cause suffering to humans

**four-leaved clo-ver** /ˈfɔːrˈleɪvədˌklɒvə/ also **four-leaf clover**—*n* [C;U] a CLOVER plant that has a set of four leaves instead of the usual three, and is believed to bring good luck to a person who finds it

**four-let-ter word** /ˈfɔːrˌleɪtəˈwɜːd/ *n* any of various words, often



made up of four letters, that are considered extremely impolite. Such words are marked *taboo* in this dictionary and are very offensive to most people: *The actor uttered a string of four-letter words during the interview.* — see also F-WORD

► **CULTURAL NOTE** These words are very offensive to most people as they refer to sexual organs or bodily functions, such as CUNT, FUCK, or SHIT. People say 'a four-letter word' when referring to such a word, esp. in print or on television where they are not usu. allowed to say them. ◀

**four-post-er** /,fɔːˈpɒstər/ also **four-poster bed** /,fɔːˈpɒstər/ *n* a large bed with posts at the four corners to support a frame for curtains, used esp. in former times. They are thought of as very special and ROMANTIC, and are often put in HONEYMOON SUITES in hotels.

**four-some** /'fɔːsəm/ || 'fɔːr-/ *n* a group of four people often two men and two women, esp. for playing games or sports: *Let's make up a foursome for tennis.* | *They went to the cinema in a foursome.*

**four-square** /,fɔːˈskweər/ || 'fɔːr-/ *adj* 1 *usu. apprec* showing confidence and determination; FORTHRIGHT: *a four-square decision* 2 (esp. of a building) shaped like a square; solid and firm

**four-star** /'fɔːˈstɑː/ *adj* [A] of a high standard or quality: *a four-star restaurant*

**four-star gen-er-al** /,fɔːˈstɑː ˈdʒenərəl/ *n* AmE the rank of general which is higher than Brigadier General, Major General, or Lieutenant General: *The order was given by a four-star general.*

**four-stroke** /'fɔːˈstroʊk/ *adj, n* (of, being, or driven by) an INTERNAL-COMBUSTION ENGINE in which all the events happening inside the engine are completed in two up-and-down movements of a PISTON: *a four-stroke cycle* — compare TWO-STROKE

**four-teen** /,fɔːˈtiːn/ || 'fɔːr-/ *determiner, n, pron* (the number) 14 — see TABLE 1 — ~ *th determiner, n, pron, adv*

**Fourteenth A-mend-ment, 14th Amendment** /,fɔːˈtiːnθ ˈændmənt/ *[the]* an AMENDMENT (addition) to the US Constitution which gave former slaves the right to be citizens of the US. The amendment gives all citizens the right to be protected by the law.

**fourth** /fɔːθ/ || 'fɔːrθ/ *determiner, n, pron, adv* 4th — see TABLE 1

**fourth di-men-sion** /,fɔːθ ˈdiːmənʃən/ *n* [(the)] (used esp. by scientists and writers of SCIENCE FICTION) time; something outside ordinary experience, as opposed to the other dimensions which are in space

**fourth es-tate** /,fɔːθ ˈeɪtə/ *[the]* BrE *lit or pomp* (often *cap.*) newspapers and the people who write for them, esp. considered with regard to their political influence; the press, radio, and television together

**fourth-gen-e-ra-tion lan-guage** /,fɔːθ ˈdʒenərəʃən ˈlæŋɡwɪdʒ/ also 4GL *n* a computer language which contains programming SHORT CUTS (=a faster way to do something) not available in previous languages. It is also easier to use than earlier languages.

**Fourth of Ju-ly** /,fɔːθ ˈdʒuːli/ also **Independence Day** *[the]* the national Independence Day of the US, a holiday celebrating the signing of the DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE in 1776. The Fourth of July is celebrated all over the US with PARADES, PICNICS, and FIREWORKS at night. Many homes and businesses fly the American flag and decorate buildings in colours of red, white, and blue.

**four-wheel drive** /,fɔːθ ˈwiːl ˈdraɪv/ also 4WD — *adj, n* [U] (of or being) a motor vehicle in which the power of the engine is given to all four wheels: *You'd better put it in four-wheel drive to get up this icy hill.* | *a four-wheel drive pickup* — see also GRANNY GEAR

**fowl** /faʊl/ *n* fowls or fowl 1 a farmyard bird, esp. a hen kept for its meat or eggs 2 *old use & poet* a bird: *God made all the fowls of the air.* — see also WATERFOWL, WILDFOWL

**Fow-ler** /'faʊlə/ || 'fɔːlə/ *n* Henry Watson (1858–1933) an English writer of dictionaries of the English language. He is known esp. for his *Dictionary of Modern English Usage*.

**Fowles** /'faʊlz/ || 'fɔːlz/ *n* John (1926– ) an English writer best known for *The French Lieutenant's Woman*

**fowl pest** /'faʊl ˈpest/ *n* [U] a quickly spreading disease of fowls

**fox** /fɒks/ || 'fɔːks/ *n* 1 [C] **vixen**

*fem.* — a small doglike flesh-eating wild animal with a reddish coat and a wide furry tail. It is often hunted for sport in Britain and is said to have a clever and deceiving nature — see also FOX-HUNT 2 [U] the skin of this animal, used as fur on coats and other clothing 3 [C] *informal, usu. derog* a person

who deceives others by means of clever tricks: *You can't trust him, he's a sly old fox.* 4 [C] AmE *apprec sl* a sexually attractive woman — see also FOXY

**fox**² *v* [T] *informal* 1 BrE to confuse; to be too difficult for (someone) to understand: *The second question on the exam paper completely foxed me.* 2 to deceive cleverly; trick: *He managed to fox them by wearing a disguise.*

**FOX** /fɒks/ || 'fɔːks/ the newest of the American television networks

**Fox, Charles James** (1749–1806) an English politician known for his wish to stop the slave trade and his opposition to the taxing of the American colonies (COLONY)

**Fox, George** (1624–91) an English religious leader who established the Society of Friends (Quakers)

**Fox, Mi-chael** /'maɪkəl/ J (1961– ) a Canadian-born actor who has appeared in American films, esp. *Back to the Future* parts 1, 2, and 3. He is popular with young girls.

**Fox, Sa-man-tha** /sə'mænθə/ (1966– ) an English singer who was famous as a PAGE THREE GIRL

**Fox and the Grapes** /,fɒks ənd ðə ˈɡreɪps/ *n* the title of a well-known story by Aesop in which a FOX tries repeatedly to reach some GRAPES above his head, but cannot, so he leaves them saying "They're probably sour ANYWAY." — see also SOUR GRAPES

**fox-glove** /'fɒksɡlɒv/ || 'fɔːks-/ *n* a tall straight poisonous plant that has pink or white bellshaped flowers all the way up its stem

**fox-hole** /'fɒkshəʊl/ || 'fɔːks-/ *n* a hole in the ground which soldiers use to fire at or hide from the enemy

**fox-hound** /'fɒkshaʊnd/ || 'fɔːks-/ *n* a dog with a sharp sense of smell, trained to track down and kill foxes (FOX¹(1))

**fox-hunt-ing** /'fɒkshantɪŋ/ || 'fɔːks-/ *n* the sport of hunting foxes (FOX¹(1)) with foxhounds, by people riding on horses — see also HUNT SABOTEUR **foxhunt** *n*: *Foxhunts are colourful and lively occasions.*

► **CULTURAL NOTE** Foxhunting started in the 13th century. It takes place in Britain every year between November and the spring. Riders often wear red coats and the hunt is controlled by the Master of Foxhounds. It is thought of as an occupation for the rich, esp. landed class who fiercely defend their right to hunt. Many people in Britain would like to see hunting stopped as they believe it is a cruel sport. ◀

**fox-hunt-er** /'fɒkshantə/ || 'fɔːks-/ *n* a horse used in foxhunting

**fox ter-ri-er** /,fɒks ˈtɛrɪər/ *n* a type of small dog often kept as a pet, formerly used to dig out foxes (FOX¹(1))

**fox-trot** /'fɒkstrɒt/ || 'fɔːkstrɒt/ *n* (a piece of music for) a type of formal dance with short quick steps

**fox-y** /'fɒksi/ || 'fɔːksi/ *adj informal* 1 *derog* like a FOX¹(1) in nature; not to be trusted: *Watch out! He's a bit of a foxy character!* 2 like a FOX¹(1) in appearance: *She has rather foxy features.* 3 AmE *apprec sl* sexually attractive: *She's a real foxy lady!*

**foyer** /'fɔɪər/ || 'fɔɪər/ *n* 1 also **lobby** AmE — an entrance hall to a theatre, where people gather and talk: *They arranged to meet in the foyer ten minutes before the play started.* 2 AmE an entrance hall to a private house or flat — compare LOBBY

**Foyles** /'fɔɪlz/ a large bookshop in the centre of London

**FPA** /,ef piː 'eɪ/ *abbrev. for*: 1 Family Planning Association 2 Foreign Press Association

**FPO** /,ef piː 'əʊ/ *fleet post office*; used in addresses to American soldiers who are at sea — compare APO

**Fr** *written abbrev. for*: 1 Father (as a religious title) 2 FRANC 3 France 4 French

**frac-as** /'frækəs/ || 'freɪkəs/ *n* **fracas** /'frækəs/, AmE -cases /kəsɪz/ *fml* a noisy quarrel in which a number of people

fox





take part, and which often ends in a fight: *The new wages policy caused a terrible fracas at the meeting yesterday.*

**frac-tion** /'frækʃən/ *n* **1** (in MATHEMATICS) a division or part of a whole number:  $\frac{1}{2}$  and  $\frac{5}{8}$  are fractions. —see also COMMON FRACTION, IMPROPER FRACTION, PROPER FRACTION, VULGAR FRACTION **2** [(of)] a very small piece or amount: *When the factory closed, the machinery was sold off for only a fraction of its true value. | The car missed me by a fraction of an inch.*

**frac-tion-al** /'frækʃənəl/ *adj* **1** so small as to be unimportant: *The difference between his wages and yours is only fractional.* **2** (in MATHEMATICS) of or being a fraction

**frac-tion-al-ly** /'frækʃənəli/ *adv* to a very small degree: *If calculations in planning to send a spacecraft to the moon are even fractionally incorrect, the project will fail.*

**frac-tious** /'frækʃəs/ *adj fml* (esp. of a child or an old or sick person) restless and complaining; bad-tempered about small things and ready to quarrel: *Babies tend to be fractious when their new teeth are growing.* —~ly *adv* —~ness *n* [U]

**frac-ture**<sup>1</sup> /'fræktʃə/ *n* [C;U (of)] *med* or *fml* (an example of) the cracking or breaking of something, esp. a bone: *a fracture of the hip | The flood was caused by a fracture in the water pipe.* —see also COMPOUND FRACTURE, SIMPLE FRACTURE

**fracture**<sup>2</sup> *v* [I;T] *tech*, *esp. med*, or *fml* to (cause to) break or crack: *He fell and fractured his upper arm.* (=the bone in his arm broke) | *The rock fractured under the tremendous pressure.*

**fra-gile** /'frædʒaɪl||-dʒəl/ *adj* **1** easily broken or damaged: *This old glass dish is very fragile. | The parcel was labelled: "Fragile, handle with care."* | (fig.) *a fragile relationship* (=not likely to last) **2** *a* having a small thin body or weak in health: *The old lady was very fragile after her operation.* *b* *usu.* *humor* not in a good condition of health and spirits; weak: *"I'm feeling rather fragile this morning," he said. "I must have drunk too much last night."* —compare FRAIL --gility /fræ'dʒɪlɪti/ *n* [U]

**frag-ment**<sup>1</sup> /'frægmənt/ *n* [(of)] a small broken-off or incomplete piece or part: *She dropped the bowl and it broke into tiny fragments. | a fragment of poetry | (fig.) There's not even the smallest fragment of truth in what he says!*

**frag-ment**<sup>2</sup> /frægmənt||'frægment/ *v* **1** [I] to break into fragments **2** [T often pass.] to form from incomplete parts, esp. that are not easy to understand: *We received a rather fragmented account of the incident.* —~ation /,frægmən'teɪʃən, -men-/ *n* [U]: *A fragmentation bomb is one that explodes into small pieces.*

**frag-ment-ary** /'frægməntəri||-teri/ also **frag-ment-al** /'frægməntl/ — *adj* made up of pieces; not complete: *My knowledge of the subject is no more than fragmentary.*

**fra-grance** /'freɪgrəns/ *n* [C;U] a (sweet or pleasant) smell: *the fragrance of spring flowers | This furniture polish comes in three new fragrances.* —**fragrance** *v* [T]: *a new air-freshener to fragrance your room*

**fra-grant** /'freɪgrənt/ *adj* having a sweet or pleasant smell, esp. of flowers: *The air in the garden was warm and fragrant.* —~ly *adv*

**frail** /freɪl/ *adj* **1** weak in body or health: *She is now eighty, and becoming too frail to live alone.* | (fig.) *What a frail excuse!* **2** not strongly made or built: *a frail shelter of leaves* —compare FRAGILE

**frail-ty** /'freɪlti/ *n* **1** [U] the quality of being frail **2** [C] a weakness of character or behaviour: *I suppose laziness is one of the frailties of human nature.* **3** *frailty, thy name is woman* quote a phrase from Shakespeare's play *Hamlet*

**frame**<sup>1</sup> /freɪm/ *n* **1** a firm border or case into which something is fitted or set, or which holds something in place: *In a silver frame on the table there was a photograph of his son. | I can't close the door; it doesn't fit properly into its frame. | a window/picture frame* **2** the main supports of which something is built or over and around which something is stretched: *a bicycle frame | This old bed has an iron frame. | In some parts of the world small boats are made of skins stretched over a wooden frame.* **3** (the form or shape of) a human or animal body: *The athlete had a powerful frame.* **4** a large wooden box covered with transparent material in which young plants are grown outdoors: *a cucumber frame* **5** any of a number

of small photographs making up a cinema film **6** a complete stage of play in the games of SNOOKER and BOWLING —see also CLIMBING FRAME

**frame**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T] **1** to surround with a solid protecting edge; put a border round: *I'm having this picture framed, so that I can hang it on the wall.* | (fig.) *A large hat framed the girl's pretty face. | (fig.) He was standing there, framed in the light of the doorway.* **2** to give shape to (words, sentences, ideas, etc.); express; FORMULATE: *An examiner must frame his questions clearly. | The government is framing a new bill to control gambling.* **3** [(up)] *in fml* to cause (someone) to seem guilty of a crime by means of carefully planned but untrue statements or proofs: *He's been framed! I know that he's innocent.* —see also FRAME-UP

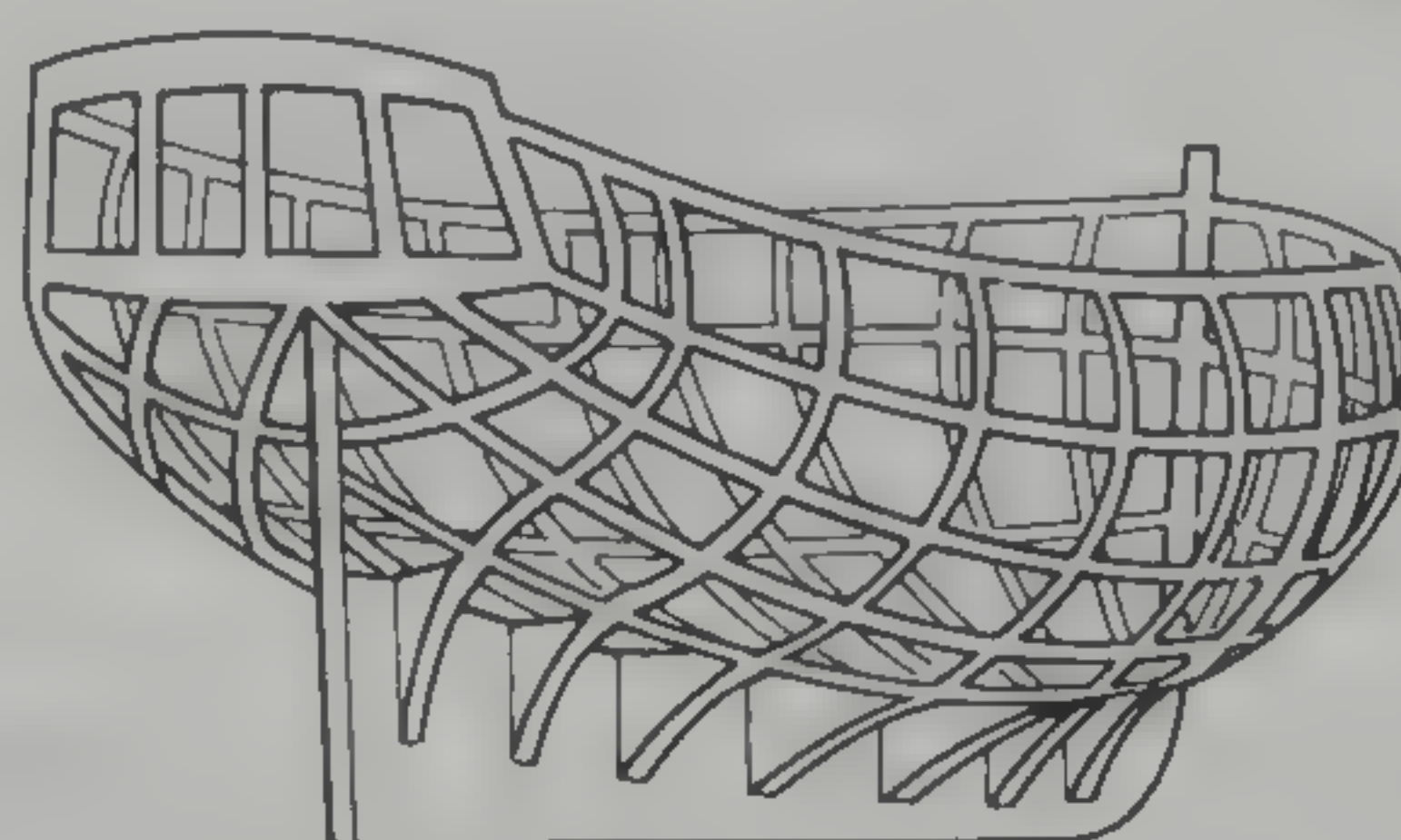
**frame of mind** /,fræm · 'maɪnd/ *n* **frames of mind** [*usu. sing.*] the state or condition of one's mind or feelings at a particular time: *I'm in the wrong frame of mind to make a decision now.*

**frame of ref-er-ence** /,fræm · 'rɛf-ə-rɛns/ *n* **frames of reference** a set or system of accepted facts, ideas, standards, etc., which help one to make clear the meaning of a statement, judgment, etc.

**frames** /freɪmz/ *n* [P] the metal or plastic part of GLASSES that hold the lenses (LENS): *I like your new frames. | These frames cost ten dollars more than my old ones.* —see picture at GLASSES

**frame-up** /'fræm · ʌp/ *n* *in fml* a carefully prepared plan to make someone appear guilty of a crime: *As a result of a frame-up, he served a sentence for a crime he did not commit.* —see also FRAME<sup>2</sup> (3)

## framework



the framework of a ship

**frame-work** /'freɪmwɜ:k||-wɜ:rk/ *n* a supporting frame; structure: *The block of office buildings was built of concrete on a steel framework. | (fig.) These political strikes threaten to destroy the whole framework of our democracy.*

**franc** /fræŋk/ *n* the standard unit of money of France, Switzerland, Belgium, and many countries that were formerly ruled by France

**France** /frɑ:ns||fræns/ a country in western Europe which has a DEMOCRATIC government and is a member of the European Community; capital Paris; population 56,160,000 (1989). In Britain, France is known esp. for its good food and drink, esp. its wines.

**fran-chise**<sup>1</sup> /'fræntʃaɪz/ *n* **1** [*the*] the right to vote in a public election, esp. one held to choose a parliament: *In England, women were given the franchise in 1918.* **2** [C] a special right given or sold by a company to one person or group of people that allows that person or group to sell the company's goods or services in a particular place: *That fast food business has expanded all over the world through the sale of franchises.*

**franchise**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T] to give or sell a FRANCHISE<sup>1</sup> (2) to

**Fran-cis** /'frɑ:nsɪs||'fræn-/ , **Dick** (1920– ) an English writer who used to be a professional horse rider and racer. He is known for his mystery stories about the horse-racing world.

**Fran-cis-can** /fræn'sɪskən/ *adj, n* (a member) of a Christian religious group established by St Francis in 1209

**Francis of As-si-si** /,frɑ:nsɪs əv ə'sɪsɪ||,fræn-/ , **Saint** (1182–1226) an Italian religious man who formed the Franciscan ORDER<sup>1</sup> (9) of MONKS. He is known for his love of nature and is often shown surrounded by birds and animals.

**Fran-co** /'fræŋkəʊ/ , **Fran-cis-co** /fræn'sɪskəʊ/ (1892–1975) a Spanish GENERAL and head of the Spanish state after



the CIVIL WAR (1936–39). Many people saw him as a DICTATOR who kept control of the country by force.

**Franco-** see WORD FORMATION

**frank**<sup>1</sup> /fræŋk/ *adj* often *apprec* open and direct in speech or manner; plain and honest and not trying to hide the truth: *He's an extremely frank person.* | *If you want my frank opinion, I don't think the plan will succeed.* | *To be perfectly frank (with you), I think you have very little chance of getting the job.* —see also FRANKLY — *ness* *n* [U]: *I appreciate your frankness.* | *with refreshing frankness*

**frank**<sup>2</sup> *n* AmE (*short for*) FRANKFURTER

**frank**<sup>3</sup> *v* [T] BrE to print a sign on (a letter) to show that the charge for posting has been paid: *Companies that send out a lot of letters save time by using a franking machine.* | *franked envelopes* —see also POSTAGE METER

**Frank, Anne** (1929–45) a Jewish girl from the Netherlands who died in a Nazi CONCENTRATION CAMP. Her *Diary of a Young Girl* tells the story of her family while they lived in hiding.

**Fran-ken-stein** /'fræŋkɪnstain/ a NOVEL by Mary Shelley, which tells the story of a scientist, called Frankenstein, who makes a creature by joining together bits of dead bodies and then brings it to life by passing an electric current through its body. The creature is gentle at first, but later becomes violent and attacks its maker. People often call the creature Frankenstein. The story is very popular and has been made into many films.

**Frank-furt** /'fræŋkfət||-fərt/ an industrial city and port in W Germany —**Frankfurter** *n*

**frank-fur-ter** /'fræŋkfɜ:tə||-3:r-/ also **frank**, **Wiener** AmE *infml* — *n* a small reddish smoked SAUSAGE, used esp. in HOT DOGS

**frank-in-cense** /'fræŋkɪnsens/ *n* [U] a sticky substance obtained from certain trees which is burnt to give a sweet smell, used esp. at religious ceremonies —see also **gold**, **frankincense**, and **myrrh** (GOLD)

**Frank-lin** /'fræŋklɪn/, **A-re-tha** /ə'ri:θə/ (1942– ) an American singer, also known as The Queen of Soul. Her hits include *Chain of Fools* and *Respect*.

**Franklin, Ben-ja-min** /'bendʒəmɪn/ (1706–90) an American politician, scientist and writer. He is known for his involvement in the Declaration of Independence in 1776 and for his writings, particularly his AUTOBIOGRAPHY and *Poor Richard's Almanack*, and for showing that lightning is a form of electricity by an experiment which involved flying a KITE during a storm.

**Benjamin Franklin**



**frank-ly** /'fræŋkli/ *adv* **1** in an open and honest manner **2** speaking honestly and plainly: *Frankly, I don't think your chances of getting the job are very good.*

**fran-tic** /'fræntɪk/ *adj* **1** in an uncontrolled state of feeling; wildly anxious, afraid, happy, etc.: *The mother was frantic when she heard that her child was missing.* | *That noise is driving me frantic.* (=making me go mad) **2** *infml* hurried, excited, and disordered: *I've had a frantic rush to get my work done.* | *the frantic pace of modern life* — *ally* /kli/ *adv*

**frap-pé** /'fræpeɪ||fræ'peɪ/ also **frappe** /'fræpeɪ||fræp/ — *n* [C;U] **1** AmE a kind of thick MILK SHAKE **2** a strong alcoholic drink poured over very small pieces of ice **3** a partly frozen drink, e.g. fruit juice —**frappé** /'fræpeɪ||fræ'peɪ/ *adj*

**frat** /fræt/ *n* AmE *infml* a fraternity (2): *frat house* | *frat rat* (=student who lives in a fraternity house)

**fra-ter-nal** /frə'tɜ:nəl||-3:r-/ *adj* **1** of, belonging to, or like brothers **2** friendly; brotherly: *The party sent its fraternal greetings to the trade union meeting.* — *ly* *adv*

**fra-ter-ni-ty** /frə'tɜ:nɪti||-3:r-/ *n* **1** [C+*sing./pl.* *v*] *pomp* an association of people having the stated work, interests, etc., in common: *He's a member of the medical fraternity.* (=is a doctor) **2** [C] also *frat* *infml* — (at some American

universities) a club of male students usu. living in the same house. Fraternities are named after Greek letters, and members are sometimes called **Greeks**. Most fraternities do work for CHARITY, and they are also known for their drinking parties. —see also RUSH<sup>2</sup> (6), compare SORORITY **3** [U] *fml* the state of being brothers; brotherly feeling

**frat-er-nize** also **-nise** BrE /'frætənaɪz||-ər-/ *v* [I (with)] **1** to meet and be friendly with someone as equals: *The teachers at the university tend not to fraternize with their students.* —compare SOCIALIZE (1) **2** *derog* to have friendly relations with members of an enemy nation — **nization** /,frætənaɪ'zeɪʃən||-ərənə-/ *n* [U (with)]

**frat-ri-cide** /'frætrɪsaɪd/ *n* **1** [U] *fml* the act of murdering one's brother or sister **2** [C] *tech* a person guilty of this crime —**cidal** /,frætrɪ'saɪdl-/ *adj*

**Frau** /fraʊ/ *n* (used as a title for a German woman, esp. a married woman): *Frau Schmidt*

**fraud** /frɔ:d/ *n* **1** [C;U] (an act of) deceitful behaviour for the purpose of making money, which may be punishable by law: *She got a five-year jail sentence for fraud.* | *He carried out a number of frauds on trusting people who lent him money.* **2** [C] *derog* someone or something that is not what they claim or are claimed to be: *He said he was an insurance salesman, but later she discovered he was a fraud.*

**Fraud Squad** /'fɔ:dskwɔd/ [the] a special part of the police force in London who examine fraud in businesses

**fraud-u-lent** /'frɔ:dʒələnt||-dʒə-/ *adj* deceitful; got or done by fraud: *They obtained the top-secret information by fraudulent means.* — *ly* *adv* — **lence** *n* [U]

**fraught** /frɔ:t/ *adj* **1** [F+with] full of something unpleasant: *The expedition through the jungle was fraught with difficulties and danger.* **2** *infml* troubled by anxieties; very TENSE

**frä-u-lein** also **Fräulein** /'frɔ:lain/ *n* a German unmarried woman

**fray**<sup>1</sup> /freɪ/ *v* [I;T] **1** to (cause to) have loose threads developing: *Constant rubbing had frayed his shirt cuffs.* | *This dress material frays very quickly when you cut it.* | *The electric cord is fraying and could be dangerous to handle.* **2** to cause (a person's temper, nerves, etc.) to become worn out: *After spending a day with screaming children, her nerves were completely frayed.* | *Tempers began to fray in the hot weather.*

**fray**<sup>2</sup> *n* [the] *lit* a fight; battle: *He rushed into the fray.* (=joined fearlessly in the fighting) | (fig.) *Are you ready for the fray?* (=ready for action, ready to begin)

**Fra-zer** /'freɪzə/, Sir James George (1854–1941) a Scottish anthropologist (ANTHROPOLOGY), best known for *The Golden Bough*, a study of magic and religion

**fraz-zle** /'fræzəl/ *n* [S] *infml* **1** a condition of being completely tired in body and mind, owing to hard work or other difficulties: *I've been trailing round the shops all day, and I'm absolutely worn to a frazzle.* **2** a thoroughly burnt condition: *He forgot about the food he was frying, and it got burnt to a frazzle.* —**frazzled** *adj*

**FRB** /,ef æ: 'bi||-ɑ:r-/ *abbrev. for* FEDERAL RESERVE BANK

**FRCM** /,ef æ: sɪz 'em||-ɑ:r-/ *abbrev. for*: Fellow of the Royal College of Music

**FRCP** /,ef æ: sɪz 'pi:||-ɑ:r-/ *abbrev. for*: Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians

**FRCS** /,ef æ: sɪz 'es||-ɑ:r-/ *abbrev. for*: Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons

**FRCVS** /,ef æ: ,sɪz vɪz 'es||-ɑ:r-/ *abbrev. for*: Fellow of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons

**freak**<sup>1</sup> /fri:k/ *n* **1** a living creature of unnatural form: *One of the new lambs is a freak; it was born with two tails.* | *This dwarf tree is a freak of nature.* **2** a strange, unexpected happening: *By some strange freak, a little snow fell in the middle of the summer.* **3** *infml* a person with rather strange habits, ideas, or appearance: *He looks a real freak in his pink trousers and orange shirt.* **4** *infml* a person who takes a very strong interest in the stated thing; FAN: *a film freak* —see also CONTROL FREAK

**freak**<sup>2</sup> *adj* [A] very unusual and unexpected: *freak weather conditions, with snow falling in the middle of summer* | *a freak storm* | *a freak result*



**freak**<sup>3</sup> *v* [I] *AmE infml* to become frightened or anxious very suddenly: *He freaked when he saw the police coming and took off down the alley.*

**freak out** *phr v* [I;T] (=freak sbdy. ↔ out) *old-fash infml* to (cause to) become greatly excited or anxious, esp. because of drugs

**freak-ish** /'fri:kɪʃ/ *adj* unusual; unreasonable; strange: *Her behaviour's becoming so freakish that I wonder if she's going mad.* | *a freakish hairstyle* — *~ly adv* — *~ness n* [U]

**freck-le** /'frekəl/ *n* [*usu. pl.*] a small flat brown spot on the skin: *When she lies in the sun, her face gets covered in freckles.* — compare MOLE<sup>2</sup> — **-led adj**: *a freckled nose*

**Fred Per-ry** /,fred 'peri/ *adj* [A] *tdmk* a British make of sports clothes, esp. tennis clothes — see also PERRY, Fred

**free**<sup>1</sup> /fri:/ *adj* **1** able to act as one wants; not in prison or under anyone's control: *This is a free country.* (=the state does not control everything) [F+to-v] *You are free to* (=you may) *go anywhere you wish.* | *Do feel free to ask questions.* | *They agreed to set all their prisoners free.* **2** not limited in any way, esp. by rule or custom: *He gave me free access to his valuable collection of scientific books.* (=let me use them whenever I wanted) | *It's a very free translation.* (=one in which the meaning is translated without giving an exact translation of every single word) | *The people won the right to free speech and a free press.* (=they could express ideas and judgments in public and in the newspapers) | *Their quarrel developed into a free fight.* (=everyone joined in) **3** [*no comp.*] without payment of any kind; costing nothing; given away: *He gave me two free tickets for the concert.* | *a free gift* | "Are the drinks free?" "No, you have to pay for them." [after *n*] *The goods will be sent to you postage free.* (=with no charge added on for posting) | *She lives there rent free.* **4** [*no comp.*] not busy; without work or duty; having time to give attention to someone or something: *He has very little free time during the week.* | *She gets a free afternoon once a week.* | *The doctor will be free in ten minutes' time; can you wait that long?* — see also FREE PERIOD **5** [*no comp.*] not being used; empty; not kept for or promised to anyone: *Is this seat free?* | *I was late because I couldn't find a free parking space.* | *She picked it up with her free hand.* | (fig.) *I'll try and phone you back when I've got my hands free.* (=when I am not busy) **6** (of a way or passage) open; not blocked: *The way is free; we can make our escape now.* | *Ice sometimes prevents the free passage of ships in the winter.* **7** [*no comp.*] not fixed onto anything; not set in position; loose: *The free end of the flag has been torn by the wind.* **8** [F+from, of] without (someone or something unwanted); safe from; untroubled or unspoilt by: *The old lady is never free from/of pain.* | *Keep the surface free from/of dirt by putting a cover over it.* | *Meals will be provided free of charge.* (=for no money) | *She's been nothing but a nuisance; I'll be glad to be free of her when she leaves next week.* | *All our food products are completely free of artificial flavourings and colourings.* | (in comb.) *trouble-free* | *duty-free* **9** (esp. of physical action) natural; graceful; not stiff or awkward: *Hit the ball with a long free swing of the arm.* | *The skirt hung in free folds from the waist.* **10** [F+with] ready to give; generous: *She's very free with her money.* | *He's too free with his advice.* (=gives advice when it isn't wanted) **11** *fm* too friendly; lacking in respect; not controlled by politeness: *Your son's manner is rather free in the presence of his teachers.* **12** [*no comp.*] *tech* (in chemistry) not combined with any type of matter (ELEMENT); pure: *free oxygen* **13** *for free infml* without payment: *I got this ticket for free.* **14** *free and easy* lacking in too great seriousness and ceremony; cheerful and unworried: *She leads a free and easy sort of life and never troubles much about anything.* **15** [+ (on)] *free ride* something obtained free that another must pay for: *welfare recipients getting a free ride on taxpayers' money* | *She's been taking a free ride on her boss's expense account.* **16** *make free with* to use (something) without respect or as if it is one's own: *She's made free with my cigarettes during my absence.* (=has taken as many as she wanted without asking me) — see also FREEDOM, FREELY

**free**<sup>2</sup> *adv* **1** without payment: *Babies are allowed to travel free on buses.* **2** in an uncontrolled manner: *Don't let the dog run free on the main road.* **3** in a loose position; so as to be no longer joined: *Two screws in this old wooden door have worked themselves free.* (=loosened or fallen out

as a result of use) | *The window had stuck, but I pushed it hard and it swung free.*

▷ **USAGE** Compare **free** and **freely** in the following sentences: *You can travel free with this special ticket.* (=without payment) | *You can travel freely to all parts of the country.* (=without limitation)◁

**free**<sup>3</sup> *v* **freed** /fri:d/ [T] **1** [(from)] to allow to go free; **RELEASE**: *When will the prisoners be freed?* | *She freed the bird from its cage.* **2** [(from)] to move or loosen (a person or thing that is prevented from moving): *Part of the old wall fell on the workman, and it took half an hour to free him.* | *Her dress got caught on a rose bush, and she tore it when she tried to free it/herself from the thorns.* **3** [+obj+to-v] to take away conditions that stop someone doing something: *Giving up my job freed me to spend more time with the children.*

**free sbdy./sthg. from/of sthg.** *phr v* [T] to take away from (a person, animal, or place) anything uncomfortable, inconvenient, difficult, unwelcome, etc.: *We must free the world from hunger.* | *She can't free herself of the idea that someone's watching her all the time.* | *He opened the window to free the room of smoke.*

**free up** *phr v* [T (free sbdy./sthg. up)] to make available for use: *If I cancel this appointment it will free up two hours this afternoon.* | *Take this bag so I can free a hand up to open the door.*

**-free** see WORD FORMATION

**free agent** /,fri: 'eɪnt/ *n* someone who can act as they choose: *No one can force you to do that — you're a free agent.*

**free-and-easy** /,fri: 'eɪzi/ *adj* not controlled by or needing formal rules or instructions: *a free-and-easy lifestyle/manner of speaking*

**free as-so-ci-a-tion** /,fri: 'eɪzi 'eɪʃən/ *n* [U] *tech* (in PSYCHOLOGY) a way of studying someone's SUBCONSCIOUS mind by getting them to say the first word they think of when each of a number of words is spoken to them

**free-base** /,fri: 'beɪs/ *v* [I] *sl* to smoke a specially prepared mixture of the drug COCAINE

**free-bie**, **-bee** /,fri: 'bi:/ *n infml, esp. AmE* something, such as a meal or a gift, that is given or received without payment

**free-board** /,fri: 'bɔ:d/ *n* [C;U] the distance between the level of the water and the upper edge of the side of a boat

**free-boot-er** /,fri: 'bʊtə/ *n lit* a person who makes war in order to grow rich by seizing other people's money and goods; PIRATE

**free-born** /,fri: 'bɔ:n/ *adj* not born as a slave

**Free Church** /,fri: 'tʃɜ:ʃ/ *n* a church in Britain which is not Anglican or Roman Catholic (the established churches), including the Baptist, the United Reformed, the Methodist, and the Church of Scotland. Many people think of these churches as having STRICT MORALS, esp. about alcohol and sex.

**Free Church of Scot-land** /,fri: 'tʃɜ:ʃ 'skɒt.lənd/ *[the]* a small group of Protestant Christians mainly in the Highlands of Scotland, esp. known for being against any form of work on Sundays. Its members are often called **wee frees**. — see also FREE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

**free col-lec-tive bar-gain-ing** /,fri: 'kɒl.ɪk.tɪv 'bɑ:ɡeɪn.ɪŋ/ *n* [U] *BrE* talks between TRADE UNIONS and employers about increases in pay, improvements in conditions, etc., that are not controlled by legal limits

**free-dom** /'fri:dəm/ *n* **1** [U (from)] the state of being free; not being under control: *During the school holidays the children enjoyed their freedom.* | *The people there are fighting to gain their freedom from foreign control.* | *He's enjoying his new-found freedom.* | *freedom from anxiety* **2** [C;U (of)] the power to do, say, think, or write whatever one wants to: *Two of the four freedoms spoken of by President Roosevelt in 1941 are freedom of speech and freedom of religion.* | *The journalists claimed that they were being denied freedom of expression.* | *You may have complete freedom of action in dealing with this matter; do what you think best.* | *Tight clothes don't allow enough freedom of movement.* [+to-v] *She's old enough to have the freedom to do as she likes.* **3** [*the+of*] certain rights, often given as an honour: *They gave her the freedom of their house.* (=gave her the right to use it as if it were her own) — compare LIBERTY



**Freedom of In-for-ma-tion Act** /,fɪˌdɒm ˌɒf ɪnˈfɔːməʃən/ *n* [the] an American law that makes any information held by the American government on any person or organization freely available to anyone with a reason to see the information —compare OFFICIAL SECRETS ACT

**freedom fighter** /'fɪdɒm ˌfaɪtə/ *n* a person who takes up arms against a government which is seen as ILLEGAL or REPRESSIVE —compare GUERRILLA, TERRORIST

**freedom of the cit-y** /,fɪˌdɒm ˌɒf ðə ˈsɪti/ *n* [U] the right to be a full member of a city, which may be given to someone by a city council in Britain. In modern times, the freedom of the city does not give a person any special rights or advantages, but is given as an honour.

**free en-ter-prise** /,fɪˌdɒm ˌɒf ɪnˈtəːpraɪz/ *n* [U] an economic system in which supply and demand are very important, and in which private trade, business, etc., is carried on without much government control

**free-fall** /,fɪˌdɒm ˌfɔːl/ *n* [U] 1 the condition of moving or falling freely through air or space without being held back by anything 2 the part of a jump or fall from an aircraft which is made before the jumper opens a PARACHUTE

**free-float-ing** /,fɪˌdɒm ˌfloʊtɪŋ/ *adj* not having firm feelings of support for a set of ideas, purpose, etc.; UNCOMMITTED

**free-fone**, -**phone** /'friːfəʊn/ *n* [U] BrE an arrangement by which a company pays the cost of telephone calls made to it, esp. in answer to an advertisement —compare FREEPOST, TOLL-FREE, 800 NUMBER

**free-for-all** /,fɪˌdɒm ˌfɔːr ˌɒl/ *n* *infml* an argument, quarrel, fight, etc., in which many people join, esp. in a noisy way

**free-form** /'friːfɔːm/ *adj* without recognizable rules or patterns: *free-form furniture|poetry|education*

**Free French** /,fɪˌdɒm ˌfrenʃ/ [the] French people during the Second World War who opposed the rule of the German-led Vichy government of their country and worked, mostly outside France, to bring it down

**free-hand** /'friːhænd/ *adj* (of drawing or a drawing) done by natural movements of the hand, without the use of a ruler or other instrument: *She drew me a freehand map so that I could find her house.* —**freehand** *adv*: *I can't draw very well freehand.*

**free hand** /,fɪˌdɒm ˌhænd/ *n* [S] unlimited freedom of action; complete rights: *She's given me a completely free hand to manage the business during her absence.* | *You have a free hand to make all the changes you wish.*

**free-hold** /'friːhəʊld/ *adj, adv, n* BrE (with) ownership of land or buildings for an unlimited time and without any conditions: *All these houses are freehold properties.* | *They bought the land freehold.* | *They have bought the freeholds of their houses.* —compare COMMONHOLD, LEASEHOLD

**free-hold-er** /'friːhəʊldə/ *n* BrE an owner of freehold land or property

**free house** /,fɪˌdɒm ˌhaʊs/ *n* (in Britain) a PUB not controlled by a particular beer-making firm, but getting and selling whatever kind of beer it chooses —compare TIED HOUSE

**free kick** /,fɪˌdɒm ˌkɪk/ *n* (in football) an unopposed kick given to one team when a rule of the game is broken by the other team

**free-lance**<sup>1</sup> /'friːlɑːns/ || -ləns/ also **free-lan-cer** /-lɑːnsə/ || -ləns/ — *n* a writer or other trained worker who earns their money without being in the regular employment of any particular organization —**freelance** *adj, adv*: *a freelance journalist* | *She does freelance translation work for several agencies.* | *He works freelance.*

**freelance**<sup>2</sup> *v* [I] to work as a freelance

**free-load** /'friːləʊd/ *v* [I(on, off)] *infml derog* to live on money and goods given by other people, without giving anything in return; SPONGE<sup>2</sup> (3) — ~ **er** *n*

**free love** /,fɪˌdɒm ˌlʌv/ *n* [U] the practice of, or belief in having sexual relations outside marriage without any OBLIGATIONS. This is thought of esp. in connection with the HIPPI movement of the 1960s and 1970s.

**free lunch** /,fɪˌdɒm ˌlʌnʃ/ *phrase* There's no such thing as a free lunch nothing is free, and things that appear to be free must be paid for in some way. A book about ECONOMICS in the 1970s by Milton Friedman used this phrase as its title.

**free-ly** /'friːli/ *adv* 1 willingly; readily: *I freely admit that what I said was wrong.* 2 openly; plainly; without hid-

ing anything: *You can speak quite freely in front of me; I won't tell anyone what you say.* 3 without any limitation on movement or action: *Oil the wheel; then it will turn more freely.* | *freely available* 4 generously: *People have given very freely to the fund for victims of the floods.* —see FREE<sup>2</sup> (USAGE)

**free-man** /'friːzmən/ *n* -**men** /mən/ [(of )] BrE a person who, as an honour, has been given certain special rights in a city: *The famous politician was made a freeman of the City of London.* —see also FREEDOM (3)

**free mar-ket** /,fɪˌdɒm ˌmɑːkɪt/ *n* 1 on the STOCK EXCHANGE, a market 'in SHARES'<sup>(2)</sup> which can be bought or sold without difficulty 2 a situation in which prices are not controlled or limited in any way

**free mar-ket e-con-o-my** /,fɪˌdɒm ˌmɑːkɪt ˌiːkənəʊmi/ *n* a system of trade in which there is free competition

**Free-ma-son** /'friːmeɪsən, ˌfriː'meɪsən/ BrE || also **Mason** — *n* (sometimes not cap.) a man belonging to an ancient and widespread secret society, the members of which give help to each other and to other people and have certain signs and words by which they recognize each other, e.g. a special kind of HANDSHAKE. It is sometimes suggested that many important people in British organizations are Freemasons and that they will only give important jobs to other Freemasons. —see also SHRINER

**free-ma-son-ry** /'friːmeɪsənri, ˌfriː'meɪ-/ *n* [U] 1 also **masonry** — (often cap.) the system and practices of the Freemasons 2 the natural unspoken understanding and friendly feeling between people of the same kind, or having the same interests, beliefs, etc.: *There's a sort of free-masonry among racing drivers.*

**free pa-per** /,fɪˌdɒm ˌpeɪpə/ *n* a free local newspaper delivered to houses in an area, usu. containing mostly advertisements with some local news and details of events taking place

**free par-don** /,fɪˌdɒm ˌpɑːdn/ *n* *law* an official act of forgiving someone and allowing them to go free as though they had never done anything wrong: *to grant someone a free pardon*

**free pass** /,fɪˌdɒm ˌpɑːs/ *n* an official paper giving a person the right to travel or go to the theatre, cinema, etc., without payment

**free pe-ri-od** /,fɪˌdɒm ˌpeəriəd/ *n* an amount of time during a school day when a pupil or teacher does not have a class. The time may be used for study or other work but it is usu. spent in the school, not at home.

**free-phone** /'friːfəʊn/ *n* [U] FREEFONE

**free port** /,fɪˌdɒm ˌpɔːt/ *n* a port where goods of all countries may be brought in or taken out without paying tax

**free-post** /'friːpəʊst/ BrE || **business reply mail** AmE — *n* [U] (in Britain) an arrangement by which a company pays the cost of letters sent to it by post: *Send it freepost to this address.* —compare FREEFONE, POST-FREE

**Free Pres-by-te-ri-an Church of Scot-land** /,fɪˌdɒm ˌprezbiːtəriən tʃɜːtʃ ɒf skɒtˈlənd/ [the] a small group of Protestant Christians mainly in the Highlands of Scotland. It has similar views to the Free Church of Scotland, esp. in connection with keeping Sunday for study of the Bible and worship of God. —see also FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

**free-range** /,fɪˌdɒm ˌreɪŋ/ *adj* BrE being, concerning, or produced by farm animals, esp. hens, that are kept under natural conditions in a farmyard or field: *free-range hens* | *I like free-range eggs.* —compare BATTERY (3)

**free-si-a** /'friːziə/ || -ʒə/ *n* a plant with sweet-smelling white, yellow, or red flowers

**free-stand-ing** /,friː'stændɪŋ/ *adj* standing alone without being fixed to a wall, frame, or other support

**free-stone** /'friːstəʊn/ *n* [U] building stone, such as SANDSTONE or LIMESTONE, that is easily cut in any direction

**free-style** /'friːstɑɪl/ *n* [U] 1 a competition or method of swimming using the CRAWL stroke: *Which swimmer won the 100 metres freestyle?* 2 the use of wrestling (WRESTLE (2)) holds according to choice, not set rules —**freestyle** *adj, adv*

**free-think-er** /,friː'θɪŋkə/ *n* someone who forms their opinions using their own powers of reasoning, and does not just accept official teachings, esp. in religious matters —**thinking** *adj*



**free throw** /,fɪˈtɒ/ *n* a chance for a BASKETBALL player to shoot the ball after he has been fouled (FOUL)

**Free-town** /'fri:təʊn/ the capital city of Sierra Leone on the Atlantic coast which is a port and industrial centre

**free trade** /,fɪˈtɹeɪd/ *n* [U] the system by which foreign goods are allowed to enter a country in unlimited quantities and without payment of high charges

**free verse** /,fɪˈvɜːs/ *n* [U] poetry in a form that does not follow any regular or accepted pattern —compare BLANK VERSE

**free-way** /'fri:weɪ/ *n* AmE abbrev. fwy— (in the US) a MOTORWAY that is free for drivers to travel on, esp. one near or between cities: *the Santa Monica Freeway* —see also EXPRESSWAY (USAGE)

**free-wheel** /,fri:'wi:l/ BrE || coast AmE— *v* [I] to ride a bicycle or drive a vehicle, esp. downhill, without providing power from the legs or the engine —compare COAST<sup>2</sup>

**free-wheeling** /,fri:'wi:lɪŋ/ *adj* *infml* not greatly worrying about rules, formal behaviour, responsibilities, or the results of actions

**free will** /,fɪˈwɪl/ *n* [U] 1 the ability of someone to decide freely what they will do: *She did it of her own free will.* (=it was completely her own decision) 2 the belief that human effort can influence events, and they are not fixed in advance by God —compare PREDESTINATION

**free world** /,fɪˈwɜːld/ [the] all the non-Communist countries of the world

**freeze** /frɪ:z/ *v* froze /frəʊz/, frozen /'frəʊzən/ 1 [I;T (UP)] to (cause to) harden, esp. into ice, as a result of extreme cold: *Water freezes at the temperature of 0 degrees Celsius.* | *The pond has frozen up.* | *The cold was severe enough to freeze the milk.* | *The cold has frozen the earth solid.* | *Many roads in northern Scotland are frozen.* (=covered with ice or snow) —compare MELT, THAW 2 [I;T (UP)] to (cause to) be unable to move or work properly as a result of ice or very low temperatures: *The engine has frozen up.* | *The cold has frozen the lock on the car door.* 3 [it+I] (of weather) to be at or below the temperature at which water becomes ice: *Do you think it will freeze tonight?* | *a freezing cold night* 4 [I;T] *infml* to (cause to) be, feel, or become extremely cold: *It's freezing in this room; put the fire on!* | *The mountain climbers were lost in the snow, and nearly froze to death.* (=died of cold) | *I'm getting frozen stiff here; please close the window!* (fig.) *His terrible stories made our blood freeze.* (=made us cold with fear) 5 [I;T] *a* to preserve (food) by means of very low temperatures: *We'll eat some of the beans now, and freeze the rest.* | *frozen peas* *b* (of food) to be able to be preserved by freezing: *Some sorts of fruit don't freeze well.* 6 [I;T] to (cause to) stop suddenly or be unable to move (because of fear, etc.): *The burglar froze (to the spot) when he heard footsteps approaching.* | *The teacher froze the noisy class with a single look.* | *"Freeze!" he said, pointing the gun at me.* | *A wild animal will sometimes freeze in its tracks when it smells an enemy.* 7 [T] to fix (prices or wages) officially at a particular level for a certain length of time 8 [T] to prevent (business shares, bank accounts, etc.) from being used, esp. by government order: *frozen assets* **freeze** sbdy./sthg. ↔ **out** *phr v* [T] *infml* to prevent from being included: *I tried to join in their conversation but they froze me out.*

**freeze over** *phr v* [I;T (=freeze sthg. ↔ over)] to (cause to) turn into ice on the surface: *The lake has frozen over.*

**freeze**<sup>2</sup> *n* [S] 1 a period of extremely cold icy weather: *He slipped and broke his leg during the big freeze last winter.* 2 a fixing of prices, wages, or the number of jobs at a certain level: *a wage freeze* | *a freeze on jobs* (=no new jobs will be made available) 3 a stopping of some activity, often because of the lack of money to continue it: *a hiring freeze* | *He put a freeze on that project till the end of the fiscal year.* —see also DEEP FREEZE

**freeze-dry** /,fɪˈzɪː/ *v* [T] to preserve (esp. food) by drying in a frozen state: *freeze-dried vegetables/coffee*

**freezer** /'fri:zə/ *n* 1 also **deep freeze**— a large FRIDGE in which supplies of food can be stored at a very low temperature for a long time: *a chest freezer in a shop* | *an upright freezer* —compare FRIDGE and see picture at KITCHEN 2 also **freezing compartment** /'fri:zɪŋ/— an enclosed part of a FRIDGE in which there is a specially low temperature for making ice CUBES, storing frozen foods, etc.

**free-zer bag** /'fɪːzə/ *n* a transparent plastic bag used to store food in, esp. in a freezer

**freezing point** /'fri:zɪŋ/ *n* 1 [U] also **freezing** *infml*— the temperature (0 degrees Celsius) at which water becomes ice: *It's very cold today; the temperature has dropped to freezing point.* | *It must be five degrees below freezing today.* 2 [C (of)] the temperature at which any particular liquid freezes: *The freezing point of alcohol is much lower than that of water.* —compare BOILING POINT

**freight**<sup>1</sup> /freɪt/ *n* [U] goods carried by ship, train, plane, etc.: *This aircraft company carries freight only; it has no passenger service.* | *You can send this trunk by air freight or by sea freight.* | *What will be the cost of freight?* | *a freight train*

**freight**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T] to send (something) as freight

**freight-er** /'freɪtə/ *n* a ship or aircraft for carrying goods

**freight-lin-er** /'freɪt,lɪnə/ also **liner** *train*— *n* esp. BrE a train that carries large amounts of goods in special containers

**Fré-mont** /'fri:mɒnt||-mə:nt/, **John Charles** (1813–90) an American EXPLORER and politician. A PEAK in the Rocky Mountains is named after him.

**french** /frentʃ/ *v* [I] AmE *infml* to kiss with mouths open and tongues touching: *I caught them frenching behind the lockers.* —see also FRENCH KISS

**French**<sup>1</sup> *adj* of France, its people, etc.: *French wine* | *a French restaurant* (a restaurant outside France which serves food cooked in a French style)

**French**<sup>2</sup> *n* 1 [the+P] the people of France: *The French have voted for the proposal.* 2 [U] the language of France: *He speaks French.* | *a French lesson* 3 **humor** **pardon/excuse someone's French** to forgive someone for using offensive language: *I wish we'd never come to this bloody place, if you'll pardon my French.*

**French, Dawn** (1957– ) a British actress and COMEDIENNE probably best-known for her appearances with another comedienne, Jennifer Saunders, esp. in the television show *French and Saunders*

**French and In-dian War** /,fɪˈtʃənˌdɪənˈwɔː/ [the] the name for a number of battles that took place in North America between the French and the British before the American Revolution

**French bean** /,fɪˈtʃənˌbiːn/ *n* BrE for GREEN BEAN

**French bread** /,fɪˈtʃənˌbrɛd/ *n* [U] bread in the form of French loaves (FRENCH LOAF)

**French Ca-na-di-an** /,fɪˈtʃənˌkænəˈdiːən/ *n* a French speaking Canadian, esp. a person whose family came originally from France

**French chalk** /,fɪˈtʃənˌtʃɔːk/ *n* [U] CHALK used for drawing lines on material in dress-making

**French Con-ec-tion** /'fɪˌtʃənˌkɒnˌɛkʃən/ *The* a film about drug smuggling (SMUGGLE) with Gene Hackman which won several OSCARS

**French crick-et** /,fɪˈtʃənˌkrɪkɪt/ *n* [U] a game played with a ball and a BAT to hit it with, usu. by or with children, the aim being to hit the legs of the person with the ball

**french dip** /,fɪˈtʃənˌdɪp/ *adj, n* AmE a SANDWICH served with clear BEEF soup into which the sandwich is dipped

**French doors** /,fɪˈtʃənˌdɔː/ *n* [P] esp. AmE for FRENCH WINDOWS

**French dress-ing** /,fɪˈtʃənˌdresɪŋ/ *n* [U] 1 a liquid made of oil and VINEGAR, used for putting on dishes made with raw vegetables (SALADS) 2 AmE a thick liquid made of MAYONNAISE and KETCHUP

**French fries** /,fɪˈtʃənˌfraɪz/ *n* [P] esp. AmE long thin pieces of potato cooked in deep fat; CHIPS<sup>1</sup> (3) —see picture at CHIP

**French Gui-a-na** /,frentʃ ɡiˈɑːnə||-ˈænə/ a country in NE South America, a French DEPARTMENT (2); capital Cayenne; population 93,540 (1989). It is known esp. for its large prison on Devil's Island.

**French horn** /,fɪˈtʃənˌhɔːn/ *n* a brass musical instrument made of thin pipe wound round and round into a circular form, having a wide bell-shaped mouth, and played by blowing —see picture at BRASS

**French kiss** /,fɪˈtʃənˌkɪs/ *n* a kiss made with the mouth open, and usu. with the tongues touching

**French leave** /,fɪˈtʃənˌliːv/ *n* [U] BrE *old-fash* or *humor* absence from work or duty taken without permission: *The young*



*soldier was punished for taking French leave to visit his girlfriend.*

**French let-ter** /ˌfrentʃlɪtər/ *n* BrE infml a CONDOM

**French loaf** /ˌfrentʃləʊf/ *n* a long thin round loaf

**French-man** /ˌfrentʃmən/ **French-wom-an** /-wʊmən/ *fem.* — *n* -men /mən/ a French citizen born in France or of French parents

**French pol-ish** /ˌfrentʃpəlɪʃ/ *n* [U] a liquid mixture of SHELLAC and alcohol rubbed onto wooden furniture to give a hard and lasting shine — **French-polish** *v* [T]

**French Pol-y-ne-si-a** /ˌfrentʃpələˈniːsiə/ a French possession consisting of many tropical islands in the E Pacific Ocean

**French Quar-ter** /ˌfrentʃkwɑːtər/ [the] a part of the city of New Orleans, Louisiana, originally settled by French people and now famous as a tourist ATTRACTION

**French Riv-i-er-a** /ˌfrentʃrɪˈvɪərə/ *n* [the] the Mediterranean coast of SE France. People think of the French Riviera as a fashionable place for the rich and famous to have a house or to spend a lot of time: *He spends most of the winter writing another novel somewhere on the French Riviera.*

**French Rev-o-lu-tion** /ˌfrentʃrɪˈvɒljʊʃən/ [the] the REVOLUTION which began in France in 1789 with the storming (STORM= attack) of the Bastille prison. The French king, Louis XVI, was killed and a republic was declared. During the revolution the people demanded “Liberty, Equality, and Fraternity”.

**French seam** /ˌfrentʃsiːm/ *n* (in dress-making) a double SEAM to hide the edges that have been cut

**French toast** /ˌfrentʃtɔːst/ *n* [U] esp. AmE pieces of bread dipped in beaten egg and cooked in hot oil

**French West In-dies** /ˌfrentʃwɛstɪˈdiːz/ [the] a group of islands in the West Indies belonging to France

**French win-dows** /ˌfrentʃwɪndəʊz/ also **French doors** esp. AmE — *n* [P] a pair of light outer doors made of glass in a frame, usu. opening out onto the garden or a BALCONY of a house

**fre-net-ic** /frɪˈnetɪk/ *adj* showing frenzied activity; overexcited: *She worked at a frenetic pace to finish the work.* — **ally** /kli/ *adv*

**fren-zied** /ˈfrenzɪd/ *adj* full of uncontrolled excitement and/or wild activity; mad; FRANTIC: *The house was full of frenzied activity on the morning of the wedding.* — **ly** *adv*

**fren-zy** /ˈfrenzi/ *n* [S;U] a state of wild uncontrolled feeling, expressed with great force; a sudden, but not lasting, attack of madness: *In a frenzy of hate he killed his enemy.* | *The fans at the rock concert worked themselves up into a frenzy.*

**fre-quen-cy** /ˈfrɪkwənsi/ *n* 1 [U (of)] the happening of something a large number of times: *The frequency of accidents on that road has forced the council to lower the speed limit.* | *Accidents are happening with increasing frequency.* 2 [C;U] *tech* a rate at which something happens or is repeated; the number of times that something happens in a given period: *This radio signal has a frequency of 200,000 cycles per second.* | *low frequency radiation* 3 [C] a particular number of radio waves per second at which a radio signal is broadcast: *This radio station broadcasts on three different frequencies.* — see also FM, VHF

**fre-quent** 1 /ˈfrɪkwənt/ *adj* common; found or happening often; repeated many times; habitual: *Sudden rainstorms are frequent on this part of the coast.* | *She's a frequent visitor to our house.* — opposite **infrequent**; see NEVER (USAGE) — **ly** *adv*

**fre-quent** 2 /frɪˈkwent/ [frɪˈkwent, ˈfrɪkwənt/ *v* [T] *fml* to be often in (a place, esp. a place of entertainment, people's company, etc.): *Police visited all the bars that the suspect frequented.* | *These woods are frequented by all kinds of birds.*

**fres-co** /ˈfreskəʊ/ *n* -coes or -cos [C;U] (a picture made by) painting in water colour on a surface, usu. of a wall, made of wet PLASTER: *This church is famous for its frescoes.*

**fresh** 1 /frefʃ/ *adj* 1 (of meat, vegetables, flowers, etc.) in good natural condition, and not spoilt in taste, smell, or appearance by being kept too long; new: *You can buy fresh fruit and vegetables in the market.* | *This fish smells; I don't think it's quite fresh.* | *These flowers don't look very fresh.* 2 (of food) not preserved by freezing, putting in cans, or other means: *Canned fruit never tastes quite the same as fresh fruit.* | *Are those peas fresh or frozen?* 3

[A *no comp.*] (of water) not salty: *I prefer swimming in fresh water to sea water.* 4 [(from) *no comp.*] that has recently arrived, happened, grown, been found, or been supplied: *There's been no fresh news of the fighting since yesterday.* | *This bread's fresh from the oven.* (=is newly baked) | *This paint's fresh* (=just put on); *don't touch it!* | *The new teacher is fresh from university.* | *Can you throw any fresh light on this subject?* (=add anything that will help to explain it) 5 [A *no comp.*] another and different; new: *Let me make you a fresh pot of tea.* | *I've spoilt this drawing; I'll have to start again on a fresh piece of paper.* | *It's time to take a fresh look at this problem.* | *When she came out of prison, she decided to make a fresh start.* (=begin life again) 6 [F] not tired; young, healthy, and active: *She always seems fresh, however much work she's done.* | *The plants look fresh after the rain.* | (infml) *He woke up fresh as a daisy* (=very fresh) *after his long sleep.* 7 [A] (of skin) clear and healthy: *She has dark hair and a fresh complexion.* 8 [A] (of air) pure; cool: *Open the window and let in some fresh air.* | *I'm just going out for a breath of fresh air.* 9 often *tech* (of wind) rather strong; gaining in force: *The winds will be fresh or strong tonight, according to the weather report.* 10 [F] infml (of weather) cool and windy: *It's a bit fresh today.* 11 [F (with)] infml rudely confident with someone of the opposite sex: *He started getting fresh with me so I slapped his face.* — see also AFRESH, FRESHLY — **ness** *n* [U]

**fresh** 2 *adv* 1 (in comb.) just; newly: *I like fresh-ground coffee.* 2 **fresh out of** infml, esp. AmE having just used up one's supplies of: *The store was fresh out of coffee.* (=had just sold its last jar of coffee)

**fresh-en** /ˈfrefʃən/ *v* [I] (of wind) to gain in force; become stronger or colder

**freshen up** *phr v* [I;T (=freshen sbdy./sthg. ↔ up)] to (cause to) feel less tired, look more attractive, etc.: *I must just go and freshen (myself) up before dinner.* | (fig.) *She's freshened up the house with a new coat of paint.* | *Can I freshen up your drink?* (=add more liquid, esp. alcohol, to it)

**fresh-ly** /ˈfrefʃli/ *adv* (before a past participle) recently; just lately: *“This coffee smells good.” “Yes, it's freshly made.”* | *His shirts have been freshly washed and ironed.*

**fresh-man** /ˈfrefʃmən/ *n* -men /mən/ 1 also **fresh-er** /-ʃər/ — BrE infml a student in the first year at college or university 2 AmE a student in the first year at a HIGH SCHOOL, college, or university — compare SENIOR (3), JUNIOR (4), SOPHOMORE

**fresh-wa-ter** /ˈfrefʃwɔːtər/ [-wɔː-, -wɑː-/ *adj* [A] of, living in, or being a river or inland lake; not belonging to the sea: *freshwater fish* | *freshwater lakes* — opposite **saltwater**

**fret** 1 /fret/ *v* -tt- 1 [I;T] to (cause to) be continually worried or dissatisfied about small or unnecessary things: *Don't fret (yourself); everything will be all right.* | *The old lady is always fretting about/over something.* | *You mustn't fret your life away!* 2 [T] rare to make a wavy pattern on (water)

**fret** 2 *n* [S] infml an anxious complaining state of mind: *She gets in a fret whenever we're late.* — see also FRETFUL

**fret** 3 *v* -tt- [T] to decorate with wood cut out in patterns

**fret** 4 *n* any of the raised lines on the NECK (=the long thin part) of a GUITAR or similar musical instrument with strings

**fret-ful** /ˈfretfəl/ *adj* complaining and anxious, esp. because of dissatisfaction or discomfort: *The child was tired and fretful.* — **ly** *adv* — **ness** *n* [U]

**fret-saw** /ˈfretsɔː/ *n* a metal cutting tool that has a thin blade with fine teeth held in a deep frame, used for cutting out patterns in thin sheets of wood

**fret-work** /ˈfretwɜːk/ [-wɜːrk/ *n* [U] (the making of) patterns cut in thin wood: *The cupboard was decorated with fretwork.* | (fig.) *The ground beneath the trees was a fretwork of sunlight and shadow.* (=formed a pattern of lines and spaces)

**Freud** /froid/, **Sig-mund** /ˈsɪgmənd/ (1856–1939) an Austrian doctor who developed the THEORY (=system of ideas) and practice of PSYCHOANALYSIS, based on FREE ASSOCIATION and the ANALYSIS (=examination) of dreams. His ideas have had a lot of influence on 20th century thinking. He was the AUTHOR of *The Interpretation of Dreams* and *The Ego and the Id*.



**Freud-i-an** /'frɔɪdiən/ *adj* 1 of or in accordance with the ideas and practices developed by Sigmund Freud concerning the way in which the mind works, and how it can be studied 2 *infml* (of a remark, action, etc.) concerned with or coming from ideas, esp. of sex, in the mind that are not openly expressed

**Freudian slip** /ˌfrɔɪdiən 'slɪp/ *n infml* an act of accidentally saying something different from what was intended, by which one seems to show one's true thoughts

**Fri.** *written abbrev. for:* Friday

**fri-a-ble** /'fraɪəbəl/ *adj tech* easily broken into small bits or into powder: *friable soil* — **bility** /ˌfraɪə'bɪləti/ *n* [U]

**fri-ar** /'fraɪər/ *n* a man belonging to a Christian religious group who, esp. in former times, were very poor and travelled around the country teaching the Christian religion — compare **MONK**

**Friar's bal-sam** /ˌfrɪər 'balsəm/ *n* [U] *tdmk* a medicine that is breathed in (INHALED) to help people who have colds

**Fri-ar Tuck** /ˌfrɪər 'tʌk/ (in the stories of Robin Hood) one of Robin Hood's companions, usu. seen in pictures as a fat and cheerful **MONK** — see **ROBIN HOOD** and see colour picture on page 622

**fri-ar-y** /'fraɪəri/ *n* a building in which friars lived, when their rules of living were changed to allow them to stay in one place

**fric-as-see** /'frɪkəsi||, 'frɪkəsiː/ *n* [C;U] a dish made of pieces of meat, cooked and served in a thick white SAUCE: *chicken fricassee*

**fric-a-tive** /'frɪkətɪv/ *adj, n tech* (a consonant sound such as /f/ or /z/) made by forcing air out through a narrow opening between the tongue or lip and another part of the mouth

**fric-tion** /'frɪkʃən/ *n* [U] 1 the force which tries to stop one surface sliding over another: *He pushed the box very hard down the slope, but friction gradually caused it to slow down and stop.* 2 the rubbing, often repeated, of one surface against another: *Friction against the rock, combined with the weight of the climber, caused his rope to break.* 3 unfriendliness and disagreement caused by two opposing wills or different sets of opinion, ideas, or natures: *Mary's neat and Jane's untidy, so if they have to share a room there'll probably be friction.*

**friction tape** /'frɪkʃən 'teɪp/ *AmE || insulating tape BrE— n* [U] sticky narrow material made from cloth or plastic that keeps water out and is used to wrap electrical wires

**Fri-day** /'fraɪdi/ (*written abbrev. Fri.*) *n* [C;U] 1 the fifth day of the week, between Thursday and Saturday: *He'll arrive on Friday.* | (*BrE infml & AmE*) *He'll arrive Friday.* | *It happened on Friday morning.* | *She left last Friday.* | *I usually work late on Fridays.* | *My birthday is on a Friday this year.* | *He arrived on the Friday and left on the Sunday.* (=arrived on the fifth day of the week being spoken of) 2 **Friday the thirteenth** the 13th day of a month, when it falls on a Friday. It is thought by many people to be an unlucky day: *"I lost my cheque book on Friday."* *"Well, it was Friday the thirteenth!"* 3 **Thank God it's Friday!** also **TGIF—** =I am very glad that it is the last day of the working week! — see **DAY** (CULTURAL NOTE); — see also **GIRL FRIDAY**, **GOOD FRIDAY**, **MAN FRIDAY**

**fridge** /frɪdʒ/ also **refrigerator** *BrE fml or AmE, icebox old-fash AmE— n* a large box or cupboard, used esp. in the home and operated by electricity, in which food and drink can be stored at a low temperature, but without being frozen — compare **FREEZER** (1) and see picture at **KITCHEN**

**fridge-freez-er** /ˌfrɪdʒ 'friːzər/ *BrE || also refrigerator-freezer AmE— n* a large box or cupboard divided into two parts, one of which is a fridge and the other a **FREEZER** — see picture at **KITCHEN**

**Frie-dan** /'frɪzdn/, **Bet-ty** /'beti/ (1921– ) American **FEMINIST** who questioned the idea that the **ROLE** of women was to be mothers and housewives. She is esp. known for her book *The Feminine Mystique*.

**Fried-man** /'frɪzdmən/, **Milton** (1912– ) an American **ECONOMIST** who supported the control by the government of the supply of money in a country's economic system (**MONETARISM**). He wrote *Capitalism and Freedom* and the *Counter-Revolution in Monetary Theory*.

**Friel** /frɪl/, **Bri-an** /'braɪən/ (1929– ) an Irish writer of plays who writes mainly about Irish people and the sit-

uation in Ireland today. He is best known for *Translations* and *Dancing at Lughnasa*.

**friend** /frend/ *n* 1 a person who shares the same feelings of natural liking and understanding, the same interests, etc., but is not a member of the same family: *Bill and Ben are friends.* | *"Bill is my friend," said Ben.* | *Bill is friends with* (=has a friendship with) *Ben.* | *The children are good friends.* (=like each other very much) | *Although Peter is a close friend, David is my best* (=closest) *friend.* | *Mary is a friend of mine.* (=one of my friends) | *She's an old friend (of mine) — we've known each other for sixteen years.* | *"There's your friend John."* *"He's no friend of mine; I don't like him at all."* | *I wish you children wouldn't quarrel all the time. Can't you be friends?* — see also **BOYFRIEND**, **GIRLFRIEND** 2 [(of, to)] a helper; supporter; adviser; person showing kindness and understanding: *That rich lady is a friend of the arts; she provides money for concerts in the town.* | *Our doctor's been a good friend to us; he's always helped us when we've needed him.* | *He says he's no friend of the government.* | *He didn't get the post on his own abilities; he had friends in high places.* (=people in a position to influence others to help him) | (fig.) *Bright light is the painter's best friend.* 3 someone who is not an enemy; a person from whom there is nothing to fear: *"Who goes there? Friend or foe?" was the question asked by the soldier on guard duty in former times.* | *They told the escaped prisoner: "Don't worry, you're among friends — we won't tell the police about you."* 4 a person who is being addressed or spoken of politely in public: *Friends, we have met here tonight to talk over a very serious matter.* | *In court, lawyers speak of each other as "My learned friend".* 5 a stranger noticed for some reason, usu. with amusement or displeasure: *Our friend with the loud voice is here again!* 6 a friend in need a true friend, who comes to help you when you are in trouble 7 **Friends, Romans, countrymen, lend me your ears; I come to bury Caesar, not to praise him.** *quote* a phrase from Shakespeare's play *Julius Caesar*, said by Mark Antony in a speech to the crowd at Caesar's funeral — see colour picture on page 1146 8 **How to win friends and influence people** the title of a book by Dale Carnegie aimed at helping people to be successful in business 9 **just good friends** a phrase used to say that a new relationship with someone is not close or sexual: *We're just good friends, nothing more than that.* 10 **make friends:** a (of one or more people) to form friendships: *He has a pleasant manner, and finds it easy to make friends.* b (of two or more people) to form a friendship: *Sammy and Joey have only just met, but they've made friends already.* | *The little boys fought over a game, and then made friends again.* (=forgave each other) 11 **make friends with** to form a friendship with: *Have you made friends with your new neighbours yet?* 12 **with friends like these who needs enemies?** *infml, often humor* a phrase used to or about friends who have said or done something unpleasant to you — see also **BEFRIEND**, **diamonds are a girl's best friend** (**DIAMOND** (1))

**Friend** *n* a member of the Christian group called the **Society of Friends**; **QUAKER**

**friend-less** /'frendləs/ *adj* without friends or help — **ness** *n* [U]

**friend-ly** 1 /'frendli/ *adj* 1 [(to, towards)] acting or ready to act as a friend: *a friendly person* | *He's not very friendly to/towards newcomers.* | *You're always sure of a friendly welcome at this hotel.* 2 [F (with)] having the relationship of friends (with): *She gets free tickets to the theatre because she's friendly with the manager.* 3 [F+to] favouring; ready to accept (ideas): *This company has never been friendly to change.* 4 not an enemy: *a friendly nation* 5 (of a game, argument, etc.) done for pleasure or practice and so not causing or containing unpleasant feelings: *We've been having a friendly argument on politics/a friendly game of cards.* — opposite **unfriendly** (for 1,3,4) — see also **FRIENDLY FIRE**, **USER-FRIENDLY** — **liness** *n* [U]: *Do you think his friendliness is genuine?*

**friendly** 2 *n esp. BrE* a game that is played for pleasure or practice and not as part of a serious competition: *Manchester United beat Celtic in a friendly.*

**friendly fire** /ˌfrɪndli 'faɪər/ *n* [U] *euph* in a war, bombs or bullets which accidentally kill people on the side which has fired the weapons: *The soldiers were killed by friendly fire when the pilot thought they were the enemy.*



**friendly so-ci-e-ty** /'frendli sɒʃiəti/ *n* (often *cap.*) (in Britain) an association to which the members pay small regular sums, and which provides money when they are ill and/or in their old age

**friend of the court** /'frend əv ðə kɔ:t/ also **amicus curiae**— *n tech* a person or group who has an interest in a legal case, although they are not a PARTY<sup>1</sup> (4) to the case. In the American legal system they can present their point of view to the court in the hope of influencing it.

**friend-ship** /'frendʃɪp/ *n* **1** [U] the condition of sharing a friendly relationship; the feeling and behaviour that exists between friends: *Real friendship is more valuable than money.* **2** [C] a particular example or period of this: *He finds it difficult to form lasting/close friendships.*

**Friends of the Earth** /'frendz əv ðə ɜ:θ/ [(the)] an international group which tries to influence people and governments to care more for the environment: *Friends of the Earth want the government to spend more money on encouraging recycling.*

**fri-er** /'fraɪə/ *n* a FRYER

**fries** /fraɪz/ *n* see FRENCH FRIES

**Frie-si-an** /'fri:ziən||-ʒən/ *esp. BrE || Holstein esp. AmE—* *n* a black-and-white cow of a breed that gives a large quantity of milk

**frieze** /'fri:z/ *n* a border along the top of the wall of a building or along the top of wallpaper in a room, usu. decorated with pictures, patterns, etc.: *There was an animal frieze in the little girl's bedroom.*

**frig** /frɪg/ *v -gg-* [I;T] *taboo sl* to have sex with

**frig about/around** *phr v esp. BrE taboo sl* **1** [I] to act in a foolish, pointless, and probably annoying manner: *Would you stop frigging about and help me for a while?* **2** [T=frig sbdy/sthg about] to treat or use in an improper way

**frig-ate** /'frɪgət/ *n* a small fast-moving armed naval ship, used for travelling with and protecting other ships—see picture at SAIL

**frig-ging** /'frɪgɪŋ/ *adj, adv* [A] *taboo* (used for giving force to an expression, esp. showing annoyance)

**fright** /fraɪt/ *n* **1** [U] the feeling or experience of fear: *He was shaking with fright; I thought he must have seen a ghost.* | *The horse took fright* (=had an attack of fear) *at the sound of the explosion.* **2** [C] an experience that causes sudden fear; shock: *You gave me a fright by knocking so loudly on the door.* | *I got the fright of my life* (=the biggest fright I've ever had) *when the machine burst into flames.* **3** [S] *infml* a person or thing that looks silly or unattractive: *She looks a fright in that old black dress.*

**fright-en** /'fraɪtn/ *v* [T] **1** to fill with fear: *The little girl was frightened by the big dog.* | *a frightening dream* **2** [+obj+adv/prep] to influence or drive by fear: *The bird came to the window, but I moved suddenly and frightened it away.* | *The burglars were frightened off by the sound of our dog barking.* | *He frightened the old lady into signing the paper.* — *~ingly adv*

**fright-ened** /'fraɪnd/ *adj* **1** [(of)] full of fear: *a frightened animal* | *Don't be frightened (of the dog) — he won't bite.* | *He was frightened at the thought that he might drown.* [F+to-v] *I was frightened to look down from the top of the tall building.* [F+(that)] *The little girl was frightened (that) her mother wouldn't come back.* | (*infml*) *They were frightened to death/out of their wits* (=extremely frightened) *by the ghost.* **2** [F+of] habitually afraid: *We leave that light on because the children are frightened of the dark.*

▷ **USAGE 1 Compare frightened and afraid:** **a** You can be **frightened** by a particular object, animal, or person: *I was frightened by a large dog.* and **frightened at/by** a particular thought or event: *frightened at/by the idea of flying* | *frightened at/by the arrival of the police.* You can be **frightened of** or, more commonly, **afraid of** something which causes long-lasting fear: *I'm afraid of/frightened of snakes.* | *He's afraid of/frightened of flying.* **b** **Frightened** can come before or after the noun: *a frightened child* | *The child was frightened.* **Afraid** must come after the noun: *He's afraid of the dark.* **2 Compare scared, frightened, terrified, and petrified.** **Scared** is the weakest in this group of words: *I felt a bit scared when the plane took off.* **Terrified** and **petrified** are the strongest: *I was*

*terrified when the tiger ran towards me.* | *We stood petrified as we felt the earthquake begin.* ◁

**fright-en-ers** /'fraɪtənəz||-nərz/ *n* [(the) *BrE sl*] **put the fright-eners on** to make someone do what you want by threatening them, usu. to keep silent: *The witnesses refused to give evidence because the criminals had put the frighteners on them.*

**fright-ful** /'fraɪtfəl/ *adj* **1** terrible; shocking; causing fear: *The battlefield was a frightful scene.* **2** *infml*, rather old-fash very bad; unpleasant; difficult: *We're having frightful weather this week.* | *The exam questions were frightful!* — *~ness n* [U]

**fright-ful-ly** /'fraɪtfəli/ *adv infml*, rather old-fash very; extremely: *I'm afraid I'm frightfully late.*

**frigid** /'frɪdʒɪd/ *adj* **1** (usu. of a woman) **a tech** unable to reach ORGASM during sexual activity **b derog** having an unnatural dislike for sexual activity **2** cold in manner; unfriendly; lacking in warmth and life: *She returned his smile with a frigid glance.* **3** [no comp.] *tech* very cold; having a continuously low temperature: *The parts of the world near the North and South Poles are called the frigid zones.* — *~ly adv* — *~ity* /frɪ'dʒɪdɪti/, *~ness* /'frɪdʒɪdnəs/ *n* [U]

**Fri-gi-daire** /'frɪdʒɪ'deə/ *n AmE tdmk* a popular kind of FRIDGE in the US; often used for any kind of fridge

**frill** /frɪl/ *n* **1** a decorative edge to a piece of material made of a band of cloth gathered together on one side and sewn on: *She sewed a frill on the bottom of her skirt.* **2** [usu. pl.] *infml*, often *derog* something decorative or pleasant, but not necessary; EXTRA<sup>2</sup>: *I just want an ordinary car, without the frills.* | *We got a no-frills deal on our car rental.*

**frill-y** /'frɪli/ also **frilled** /frɪld/— *adj* having many FRILLS (1): *The little girl wore a frilly party dress.* — *~iness n* [U]

**fringe**<sup>1</sup> /'frɪndʒ/ *n* **1** a decorative edge of hanging threads on a curtain, tablecloth, GARMENT, etc. **2** *BrE || bangs pl. AmE—* a short border of hair usu. cut in a straight line, hanging over a person's forehead: *The girl wore her hair in a fringe.* **3** [(of)] also **fringes pl.**— the part farthest ~from the centre; edge: *It was easier to move about on the fringe of the crowd.* | *The woodcutter had a little house on the fringes of the forest.* | (fig.) *A fringe group separated from the main political party.* —see also LUNATIC FRINGE

**fringe**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T] to act as a fringe or border to: *A line of trees fringed the pool.*

**Fringe** [(the)] the name of the theatre productions in the Edinburgh Festival which are not in the official programme: *a Fringe production* | *The comedian was a great success at the Fringe.*

**fringe ben-e-fit** /'fɪŋdʒ be-nəfɪt/ *n* (often *pl.*) an added favour or service given with a job, besides wages, such as the use of a car, free or cheap meals, or free insurance; PERK: *One of the fringe benefits of this job is free health insurance.* — compare EMOLUMENT

**frip-pe-ry** /'frɪpəri/ also **fripperies pl.**— *n* foolish, unnecessary, and useless decoration(s), esp. on an article of clothing

**Fris-bee** /'frɪzbi/ *n tdmk* (often *not cap.*) a plate-like piece of plastic that people throw to each other as a game: *The boys are playing (with a) frisbee in the park.*

**frisk** /frɪsk/ *v* **1** [I] (of an animal or child) to run and jump about playfully: *The new lambs are frisking in the fields.* **2** [T] to search (someone) for hidden weapons, goods, etc., by passing the hands over the body: *The passengers were frisked before they were allowed to board the plane.* — *frisk n*

**frisk-y** /'frɪski/ *adj infml*, often *humor* overflowing with life and activity; joyfully alive and playful: *The spring weather's making me feel quite frisky.* | *He may be over seventy, but he can still be quite frisky!* (=sexually playful) — *~ily adv* — *~iness n* [U]

**fris-son** /'frɪzən||frɪ:'səʊn/ *n* a feeling of excitement and/or pleasure, esp. caused by something dangerous or forbidden of which one is slightly afraid

**frit** /frɪt/ *adj BrE, dial* frightened. The word became well known throughout Britain when Margaret Thatcher used it in the British Parliament.

**Fri-tos** /'frɪtəʊz/ *n* [P] *tdmk* a popular kind of CORN CHIPS sold in the US



**frit-ter**<sup>1</sup> /'fritə/ *n* (often in comb.) a thin piece of fruit, meat, or vegetable, covered with a mixture of egg and flour (BATTER) and cooked in hot fat: *apple fritters*

**fritter**<sup>2</sup> *v*

**fritter** sthg. ↔ **away** *phr v* [T (on)] *derog* to waste (time, money, etc.) on small unimportant things: *She fritters away all her money on clothes and trips to the cinema.*

**frivol-i-ty** /fri'vɒlɪti/ -'vɑː-/ *n* 1 [U] *derog* the condition of being frivolous: *Your frivolity is out of place on such a solemn occasion.* 2 [C usu. pl.] a *derog* a frivolous act or remark: *One doesn't expect a serious political speech to be full of frivolities.* **b** any form of light pleasure or amusement: *Most people enjoy a few frivolities during their holidays.*

**friv-o-lous** /'frivələs/ *adj derog* 1 not taking important matters seriously or sensibly; FLIPPANT: *When he tried to make a little joke, the judge warned him not to give frivolous replies to the lawyer's questions.* 2 liking to spend time in light useless pleasures: *He has a frivolous nature.* | *Are you playing cards again? What a frivolous way of spending your time!* --ly *adv* --ness *n* [U]

**frizz** /friz/ *v* [T (OUT, UP)] *infml* to cause (hair) to go into tight short curls --frizz *n* [S;U]

**friz-zle** /'frizəl/ *v* [I (UP)] *infml* to become burnt by being cooked in hot fat: *I left the stew cooking for too long and it frizzled up and stuck to the pan.*

**frizz-y** /'frizi/ *adj infml* (of hair) in lots of tight short curls: *Some people have naturally frizzy hair.*

**fro**<sup>1</sup> /frəʊ/ *adv* --see TO-AND-FRO

**fro**<sup>2</sup> *n* AmE *infml* for an AFRO: *He's got his hair in a fro now; I hardly recognized him.*

**frock** /frɒk||frɑːk/ *n* 1 *old-fash* a woman's or girl's dress: *a party frock* 2 a long loose GARMENT worn by some Christian MONKS

**frock coat** /,fɹɒk'kəʊt/ *n* a knee-length coat for men, worn in the 19th century

**Fro-do** /'frəʊdəʊ/ a HOBBIT character in the book *The Lord of the Rings* by JRR Tolkien

**frog** /frɒg||frɑːg, frɔːg/ *n* 1 a small hairless tailless animal, usu. brownish-green, that lives in water and on land, has long back legs for swimming and jumping, and CROAKS (=makes a deep rough sound). People sometimes make jokes about kissing frogs to make them turn into an attractive prince, because this happens in some children's fairy stories. --see also FROG PRINCE 2 a 'frog in the one's throat' *infml* a difficulty in speaking because of roughness in the throat



frog

**Frog** *n infml, derog* a French person (usu. considered offensive)

**frog-man** /'frɒgmən||'frɑːg-, 'frɔːg-/ *n-men* /mən/ a skilled underwater swimmer who wears a special APPARATUS for breathing and FLIPPERS (=large flat shoes) to increase the strength of his leg movements: *Police frogmen were called in to search the lake for the missing child.* --compare SKIN-DIVE

**frog-march** /'frɒgmɑːtʃ||'frɑːgmɑːrtʃ, 'frɔːg-/ *v* [T+obj +adv/prep] BrE to force (a person) to move forward with the arms held together firmly from behind: *They frogmarched him into the yard where the firing squad was waiting.*

**Frog Prince** /,fɹɒg'prɪns/, The a fairy story in which a prince has been turned into a frog by an evil WITCH. He becomes a prince again when a princess kisses the frog. The prince and princess then get married and live happily ever after.

**frog-spawn** /'frɒgspɔːn||'frɑːg-, 'frɔːg-/ *n* [U] a nearly transparent mass of frog's eggs

**frol-ic**<sup>1</sup> /'frɒlɪk||'frɑː-/ *v -ck-* [I (ABOUT)] to play and jump about happily; FRISK: *The young lambs were frolicking in the field.*

**frol-ic**<sup>2</sup> *n* an active and enjoyable game of amusement: *The children are having a frolic before bedtime.*

**frol-ic-some** /'frɒlɪksəm||'frɑː-/ *adj esp. lit* playful; merry: *Kittens are naturally frolicsome.*

**from** /frəm; strong frɒm||frəm; strong frɑːm, frɑːm/ *prep* 1

starting at (the stated place, position, or condition): *The train from London arrives here at nine o'clock.* | *He flew from London to New York.* | *A cool wind blew from the sea.* | *She went from shop to shop trying to find what she wanted.* | *He rose from office boy to managing director in fifteen years.* | *Translate this letter from French into English.* | *The situation seems to be going from bad to worse.* 2 starting at (the stated time): *From the moment he saw her, he loved her.* | *We've been working from morning to night.* (=without stopping) | *We hope to go on holiday a month from (=after) today.* | *The shop will be open from about half past eight until six o'clock.* | *From now on, I will only be working in the mornings.* 3 beginning at (the stated lower limit): *These coats are from £50.* (=the cheapest costs £50) | *There were from 60 to 80 people* (=between 60 and 80) *present.* 4 using (the stated thing) as a position: *From the top of the hill you can see the sea.* | *He was looking at me from over the top of his newspaper.* | (fig.) *From a child's point of view this book isn't very interesting.* 5 in a state of separation with regard to: *His absence from class was soon noticed.* | *It's hard for a child to be kept apart from its mother.* | *She took the matches away from the boys.* | *If you subtract 10 from 15, you are left with 5.* | *The wind blew his hat from his head.* | *Could you pass me that book down from the top shelf?* | *He ran away from home at the age of 14.* 6 out of: *He took a knife from his pocket.* 7 distant in regard to: *The village is five miles (away) from the coast.* | *She lives a few miles from here.* | (fig.) *Nothing could have been further from my mind.* (=my intentions or thoughts were quite opposite) 8 in a state of protection or prevention with regard to: *She saved the child from drowning.* | *A tree gave us shelter from the rain.* | *I think we ought to keep the bad news from her.* 9 compared with; as being unlike: *He's different from his brother in character.* | *I don't know anything about cars; I can't tell one make from another.* 10 sent or given by; originating in: *I had a letter from her yesterday.* | *You get eggs from hens.* | *Light comes from the sun.* | *He gets his good looks from his mother.* | "Where are you from?" "I'm from Scotland." (=I'm Scottish.) | *The man from (=employed and sent by) the gas company called today.* | *This music is from (=is part of) one of Mozart's operas.* | *Tell your brother from me* (=pass my message on to him) *that I want him to return my book.* 11 using: *Bread is made from flour.* | *She played the music from memory.* 12 because of; as a result of; through: *She suffered from heart disease.* | *She was exhausted from all the sleepless nights.* | *The explorers died from cold before they reached the North Pole.* 13 judging by; considering: *You can't tell how old he is from the way he looks.* | *From what John tells me, they're very rich.* 14 **From Russia With Love** a film about James Bond based on the NOVEL by Ian Fleming. The title is often used in a changed form in newspapers: *From the government with love.* | *From India with an upset stomach.*

**from-age frais** /,frɒmɑːʒ 'freɪ||frɔːmɑːʒ-/ *n* [U] Fr a soft food, usu. served in a small pot, made from soft cheese and cream, and sometimes sugar, and fruit

**frond** /frɒnd||frɑːnd/ *n* a leaf of a FERN or of a PALM

**front**<sup>1</sup> /frʌnt/ *n* 1 [C (of) usu. sing.] the most forward position; the part in the direction that something moves or faces: *The restaurant car is at the front of the train.* | *The teacher called the boy to the front of the class.* | *We managed to get seats at the front of the hall.* | *The front of the postcard shows a picture of our hotel.* | *The front of the school faces south.* | *This dress fastens at the front.* | *I've spilt some soup down my front.* (=my chest) | *He's sitting in the front of the car, beside the driver.* | *Write your name at the front of the book* (=on the first page inside it) | *on the front of the book.* (=on the cover) | *Iron the fronts of the shirts and then the backs.* --opposite **back**; compare REAR<sup>1</sup> (1) 2 [C] a side of a large important building: *The west front of the church contains some fine old windows.* 3 [the] a road, often built up and having a protecting wall, by the edge of the sea, esp. in a town where people go for holidays: *The hotel is right on the sea front.* | *We walked along the front to enjoy the air.* --compare PROMENADE<sup>1</sup> (1) 4 [C] (sometimes cap.) a line along which fighting takes place in time of war, together with the part behind it concerned with supplies; FRONT LINE: *He lost his life at the front.* | *The Minister of Defence paid a visit to the Western Front.* | *There has been heavy fighting on several fronts.* | (fig.) *The fight against disease is making advances on all fronts.* --see also HOME FRONT 5 [C usu.



sing.] a combined effort or movement against opposing forces: *The opposition parties can only defeat the government if they present a united front.* | *During the war, she worked on the home front* (=in her own country), *helping to produce weapons for the army.* | *a political party called the Popular Front* 6 [C usu. sing.] a particular area of activity, esp. one in which difficulties are faced: *The government has reduced inflation, but has not made much progress on the employment front.* 7 [S] the outward manner and appearance of a person: *Whatever his problems, he always presents a smiling front to the world.* | *Although she was feeling very nervous she put on a brave front.* (=acted as if she wasn't afraid) 8 [C (for) usu. sing.] infml a person, group, or thing used for hiding the real nature of a secret or unlawful activity: *A travel company was used as a front for bringing illegal drugs into the country.* | *Her job at the embassy was just a front for her spying activities.* —see also FRONT<sup>2</sup> for 9 [C] tech a line of separation between two masses of air of different temperature: *A cold front will reach the south coast overnight, bringing icy weather to the southern region.* | *a warm front* 10 in front: a ahead: *The old woman walked slowly, and the children ran on in front.* b in the most forward or important position: *The driver sits in front, and the passengers sit behind.* —compare BEHIND<sup>2</sup> (1) 11 in front of: a in the position directly before: *She couldn't watch the television because he was standing in front of the screen.* | *A van was parked right in front of my car.* —opposite behind b in the presence of: *You shouldn't use such bad language in front of the children.* c in a more important position than; BEFORE<sup>1</sup> (5): *He won't consider our request in front of all the others.* 12 out front infml a among the people watching a theatrical or other performance: *The author's family are out front this evening for the first performance of his new play.* b in front of the place where one is speaking: *Is that your car out front with the broken tail light?* | *A cop just pulled up out front.* 13 up front infml as payment in advance, esp. as a sign of trust that other payments will follow: *He demanded £5,000 up front before agreeing to go ahead with the deal.* —see also FRONTAL, UPFRONT, back to front (BACK<sup>1</sup>)

▷ USAGE Use **in front of** when one thing is separate from the other: *A child ran out in front of the bus* (=in the road outside the bus), *so the driver had to stop.* Use **at/in the front of** when one thing is inside or part of the other: *She got a seat at/in the front of the bus* (=in the front part of the bus), *so we had a good view.* | *I was sitting right at the front of the cinema* (=in the front part of the room) *but then someone sat in front of me, so I couldn't see a thing!* <

**front<sup>2</sup>** adj [A] 1 at the front: *Write your name on the front cover of the exercise book.* | *One of his front teeth got knocked out.* | *We have tickets for the front row at the concert.* | *She sat in the front garden.* | *The incident made* (=was reported on) *the front page (of the newspaper).* 2 infml being a FRONT<sup>1</sup> (8): *a front man* | *The travel firm was just a front organization for the importing of heroin.* 3 tech (of a vowel sound) made by raising the tongue at the front of the mouth —opposite back

**front<sup>3</sup>** v 1 [I+prep, esp. onto; T] (of a building) to have the front towards; face: *The hotel fronts onto the main road.* | *A large, well-kept lawn fronted the house.* 2 [T usu. pass.] to give a surface to the wall of (a building): *The house is fronted with brick.* 3 [T] to head in a way that attracts usu. favourable attention: *We want to get a well-known businessman to front our organization.*

**front for** sbdy./sthg. phr v [T] infml to act as a FRONT<sup>1</sup> (8) for: *The police suspected her of fronting for a gang of forgers.*

**front-age** /'frʌntɪdʒ/ n a part of a building or of land that stretches along a road, river, etc.: *The shop has frontages on two busy streets.* | *The boat-building company is looking for a yard with a wide river frontage.*

**frontage road** /'frʌntɪdʒ ˌroʊd/ n AmE a road, parallel to a larger road, from which it is possible to reach buildings that do not have a direct connection to the larger road: *Get off the freeway at exit 46 and follow the frontage road for half a mile till you see our turnoff.*

**front-al** /'frʌntl/ adj [A] fml 1 of, at, or to the front: *The brain has two frontal lobes.* | *Are there any full frontal scenes* (=showing people with no clothes from the front) *in this film?* 2 (of an attack) direct; (as if) from

the front 3 of or being a weather FRONT<sup>1</sup> (9): *A new frontal system is moving towards Britain from the west.* —~ly adv

**front-bench** /,frʌnt'benʃ/ n the front row of seats on each side of the British parliament; the PRIME MINISTER and ministers who speak officially for the government sit on one side, and leading opposition speakers sit on the other: *a front bench spokesman* —compare BACK-BENCH

**front-bench-er** /,frʌnt'benʃə/ n a person who sits on the front bench —compare BACK-BENCHER

**front door** /,frʌnt ˈdɔː/ n the main entrance door to a house, usu. at the front —see picture at HOUSE —compare BACK DOOR

**front end** /'frʌnt ˈend/ n AmE the part of a computer system operated by people, as opposed to the part which is in the background: *We're hoping to get a new front end without updating our mainframe.*

**front-end** adj AmE infml happening or needed at the beginning: *She wants a front-end payment of \$50,000 with the rest due in six months.*

**front-tier** /'frʌntɪə/ n 1 [C (between, with)] the limit or edge of the land of one country, where it meets the land of another country; border: *They were shot trying to cross the frontier.* | *Sweden has frontiers with Norway and Finland.* 2 [the] the area between settled and wild country, esp. in the US in former times: *Areas near the frontier were rough and lawless in the old days.* 3 [C (of)] also frontiers pl. — a border between what is known and what is unknown: *They are pushing back the frontiers of medical knowledge.*

**front-tiers-man** /'frʌntɪəzmən/ n -men /mən/ a man living on the edge of a settled area (FRONTIER (2)); an early settler

**front-tis-piece** /'frʌntɪspiːs/ n a picture or photograph at the beginning of a book, usu. on the left-hand page opposite the title page

**front line** /'frʌnt ˈlaɪn/ n [the] 1 the most advanced or important position: *in the front line of the fight against disease* 2 the area where fighting takes place in a war; the FRONT<sup>1</sup> (4): *soldiers in the front line* —**front-line** adj [A]: ~front-line soldiers

**front-line states** /'frʌnt ˈlaɪn ˈsteɪts/ n [P] the name given to the countries nearest South Africa, such as Mozambique, Zimbabwe, and Botswana, which oppose the system of APARTHEID in South Africa

**front man** /'frʌnt ˈmæn/ n someone who explains the views or future plans of esp. a large company or illegal organization to the public: *a front man for the Mafia/Bureau of Indian Affairs*

**front-page** /'frʌnt ˈpeɪʒ/ adj [A] infml so interesting, important, or exciting that it is worthy of being printed on the front page of a newspaper: *front-page news* | *a front-page story*

**front room** /'frʌnt ˈruːm/ n a LIVING ROOM in a small house or flat, not usu. in a large house

**front-run-ner** /'frʌnt ˈrʌnər/ n a person (or sometimes a thing) that has the best chance of success in competing for something: *"Who do you think will get the job?" "Thomson, Murray, and Jenkinson are the three front-runners."* | *The government has several options for increasing its revenue, but the current front-runner is an increase in local taxes.*

**frost** /frɒst/ n 1 [U] a white powdery substance (frozen DEW) formed on outside surfaces when the temperature of the air is below freezing point: *The grass was covered with frost in the early morning.* 2 [C;U] (a period or state of) weather at a temperature below the freezing point of water: *There was a hard* (=severe) *frost last night.* | *The young shoots on the trees have been damaged by a late frost.* (=one towards the end of spring) | *Frost has killed several of our new young plants.* | (tech) *There was five degrees of frost last night.* (=the temperature was -5° Celsius) —see also FROSTY, JACK FROST

**frost<sup>2</sup>** v 1 [I;T (OVER, UP)] to (cause to) become covered with frost: *The cold has frosted the windows.* | *The fields have frosted over.* | *The car windscreen has frosted up.* 2 [T] to make (something, esp. glass) look as if it is covered with frost: *frosted glass* (=glass through which you cannot see clearly) | *Her cocktail glass was frosted with sugar.* 3 [T] esp. AmE to cover (a cake) with a mixture of fine powdery sugar and liquid; ICE<sup>2</sup> (2)

**Frost, David** (1939– ) an English television CHATSHOW



host, who has had many successful television shows in Britain and the US

fruit

**Frost, Robert** /'rɒbət/ 'rɔːbət/ (1874–1963) an American poet remembered for his many popular poems about ordinary people and nature such as *Mending Wall* and *Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening*

**frost-bite** /'frɒstbaɪt/ 'frɔːst-/ *n* [U] harmful swelling and discoloration of a person's limbs, caused by great cold: *The rescued climbers were brought down from the mountain suffering from frostbite.* —**bitten** *adj*: *frostbitten toes*

**frost-bound** /'frɒstbaʊnd/ 'frɔːst-/ *adj* (of the ground) hardened by FROST: *We can't plant the vegetables while the earth is still frostbound.*

**frost-ing** /'frɒstɪŋ/ 'frɔːstɪŋ/ *n* [U] 1 a non-shiny surface on glass or metal 2 *esp. AmE* a covering on a cake made from fine sugar and liquid; ICING

**frost-y** /'frɒsti/ 'frɔːsti/ *adj* 1 a very cold: *It was a frosty morning.* b covered with FROST: *The fields look frosty this morning.* 2 unfriendly; cold: *She gave me a frosty greeting.* —**ily** *adv* —**iness** *n* [U]

**froth** /frɒθ/ 'frɔːθ/ *n* 1 [S;U] a white mass of small bubbles formed on top of a liquid, or in the mouth; FOAM: *the froth on a glass of beer* 2 [U] *derog* a light empty show of talk or ideas: *The play was amusing, but it was little more than froth.* —see also FROTHY

**froth** *v* [I] to make or produce froth: *The beer frothed as it was poured out.* | *The sick animal was frothing at the mouth.* | (*humor*) *"Is he annoyed about it?" "Yes, he's frothing at the mouth!"* (=showing signs of great excitement and anger)

**froth-y** /'frɒθi/ 'frɔːθi/ *adj* 1 full of or covered with froth: *frothy beer* | *frothy coffee* 2 *sometimes derog* light and amusing; without serious content: *a frothy piece of entertainment* —**ily** *adv* —**iness** *n* [U]

**frown** /fraʊn/ *v* [I] to bring the EYEBROWS together in anger or effort, causing lines to appear on the forehead: *He frowned with displeasure as he read his son's school report.* | *A fiddly task, like threading a needle, often makes you frown.* | (*fig.*) *frowning cliffs* (=having an unfriendly threatening appearance) —**ingly** *adv*

**frown on/upon** sthg. *phr v* [T] to disapprove of: *Mary wanted to go to Europe by herself, but her parents frowned on the idea.* | *Smoking in the canteen is rather frowned on here.*

**frown** *n* a serious or displeased look, causing lines on the forehead: *She looked at her exam paper with a worried frown.*

**frowst-y** /'fraʊsti/ *adj infml, esp. BrE* (of the conditions inside a room) hot and airless; STUFFY

**frow-zy**, -sy /'fraʊzi/ *adj* 1 (of a person, clothes, etc.) not neat or clean because not well cared for; SHABBY 2 (of a house or room) having a closed-in heavy smell

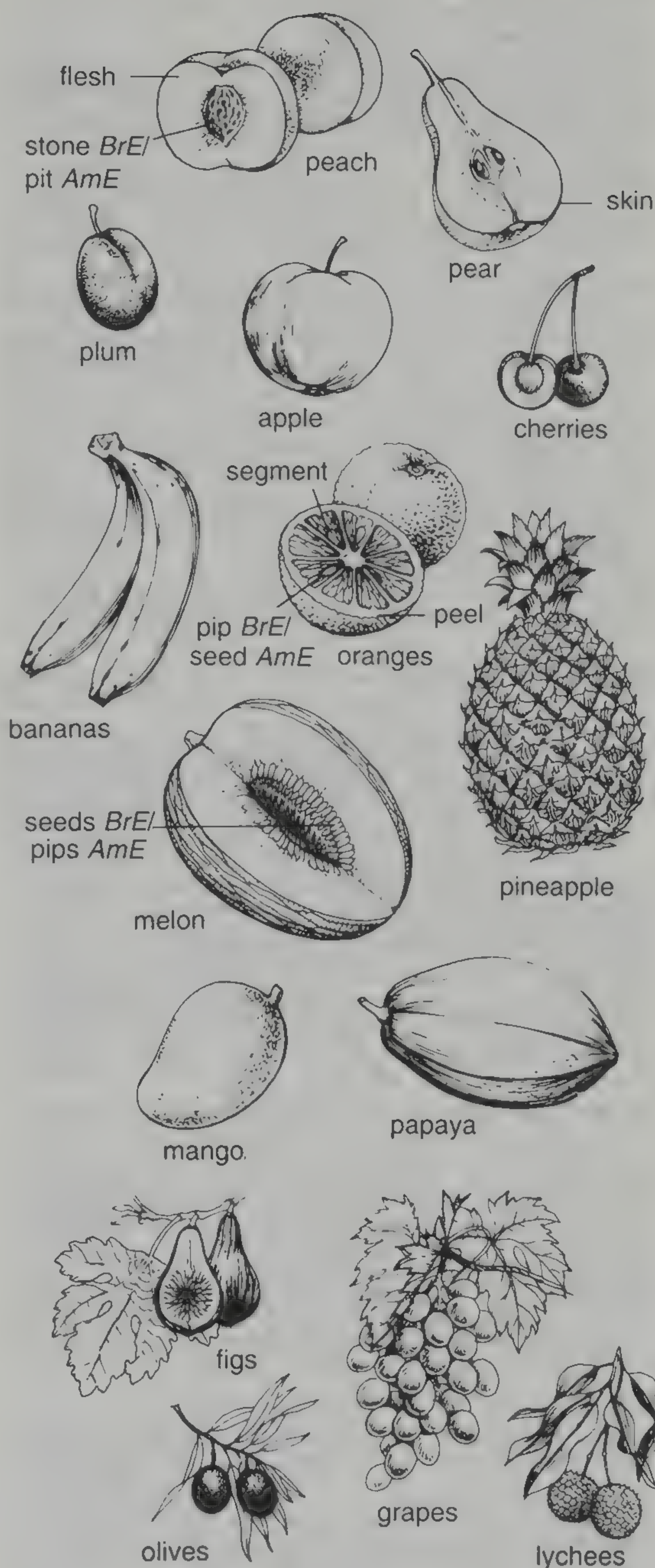
**froze** /frəʊz/ *past tense of FREEZE*¹

**fro-zen** /'frəʊzən/ *past participle of FREEZE*¹: *I'm absolutely frozen.* (=extremely cold) | *frozen peas* | *The lake is frozen over.*

**fruc-ti-fy** /'frʌktɪfaɪ/ *v* [I;T] *fml* 1 to (cause to) produce fruit 2 to (cause to) produce successful results —**fication** /'frʌktɪfɪ'keɪʃən/ *n* [U]

**fru-gal** /'fruːgəl/ *adj* 1 not wasteful; careful in the use of money, food, etc.: *Although he's become rich, he's still very frugal with his money.* | *frugal habits* 2 small in quantity and cost; MEAGRE: *a frugal supper of bread and cheese* —**ly** *adv* —**ity** /'fruː'gælɪti/ *n* [U]

**fruit** /fruɪt/ *n* 1 [C;U] (a particular variety of) the parts of a tree or bush that contain seeds and are often eaten for their usu. sweet flesh: *Apples, oranges, strawberries, and bananas are kinds of fruit|are all fruit.* | *Would you like fruit or cheese after your main course?* | *The potato is a vegetable, not a fruit.* | *This drink is made from four tropical fruits.* | *a fruit bowl* | *a fruit flan* | *dried fruit* —see also SOFT FRUIT 2 [C] *tech* a seed-containing part of any plant: *The tomato is technically a fruit, although it is eaten as a vegetable.* 3 [C] also **fruits** *pl.* — a result: *It was a tragedy that he died before he could enjoy the fruits (=rewards) of all his hard work.* | *Their plans haven't borne fruit.* (=had a successful result) —see also FRUITFUL 4 *BrE old-fash sl* (used for addressing a male friend): *Hello, old fruit!* 5 [C] *AmE derog sl* a male HOMOSEXUAL



**fruit** *v* [I] *tech* (of a tree, bush, etc.) to produce fruit: *The apple trees are fruiting early this year.*

**Fruit and Nut** /'fruɪt ˌnʌt/ *n* a type of milk chocolate bar made by Cadbury's which contains RAISINS and nuts

**fruit bat** /'fruɪt bæt/ also **flying fox** — *n* a large type of flying animal (BAT³) that lives in hot countries and feeds on fruit

**fruit-cake** /'fruɪtkeɪk/ *n* 1 [C;U] a cake containing small dried fruits, nuts, etc. 2 [C] *sl* a person who acts in an odd manner: *She's a strange person, in fact, she's a bit of a fruitcake.*

**fruit-er-er** /'fruɪtəɹə/ *n tech* (a person who has) a shop in which fruit is sold

**fruit fly** /'fruɪt flai/ *n* any of several types of small fly that feed on fruit or decaying vegetable matter

**fruit-ful** /'fruɪtfəl/ *adj* 1 successful; useful; producing good results: *It was a very fruitful meeting; we made a lot of important decisions.* —opposite **fruitless** 2 *old use* (of living things) producing many young or much fruit —**ly** *adv* —**ness** *n* [U]



**fru·i·tion** /fruːʃən/ *n* [U] *fml* fulfilment (of plans, aims, desired results, etc.): *After much delay, the plan to build the new hospital finally came to fruition/was brought to fruition.*

**fruit·less** /'frutləs/ *adj* (of an effort) useless; unsuccessful; not bringing the desired result: *So far the search for the missing boy has been fruitless.* —opposite **fruitful** —*~ly adv* —*~ness n* [U]

**fruit ma·chine** /'· ··/ *n* BrE for ONE-ARMED BANDIT

**Fruit of the Loom** /'· · · '·/ an American maker of clothing, best known for UNDERWEAR and informal clothes

**fruit sal·ad** /'· · '·/ *n* [C;U] a dish made of several types of fruit cut up and served in a bowl at the end of a meal

**fruit·y** /'fruti/ *adj* 1 *usu.* *apprec* like fruit; tasting or smelling of fruit: *The medicine had a fruity taste.* | *This red wine is soft and fruity.* 2 *infml* (of a voice) too rich and deep: *a fruity laugh* 3 BrE *infml* (of talk, a remark, etc.) amusing in a slightly shocking or impolite way, esp. about matters of sex: *I was surprised to hear my mother-in-law telling such a fruity story.* 4 *derog* typical of male HOMOSEXUALS; EFFEMINATE: *He started acting really fruity when we were alone together.*

**frump** /frʌmp/ *n infml* a dull unattractive person, esp. a woman, who wears old-fashioned clothes —*~ish adj* —*~y adj*

**frus·trate** /frʌ'streɪt/ || /frʌstreɪt/ *v* [T] 1 to cause (someone) to have feelings of annoyed disappointment or dissatisfaction: *After two hours' frustrating delay, our train at last arrived.* | *I'm feeling rather frustrated in my present job; I need a change.* 2 to prevent the fulfilment of; cause the failure of (someone or someone's effort); THWART: *The bad weather frustrated our hopes of going out.* | *The prisoner was frustrated in his attempt to escape by a watchful guard.* —**tration** /frʌ'streɪʃən/ *n* [C;U]: *The players' frustration mounted as the rain continued to pour down outside.* | *Life is full of frustrations.*

**fry** /fraɪ/ *v* 1 [I; T] to cook or be cooked in hot fat or oil: *Shall I fry the fish for dinner?* | *The eggs were frying in the pan.* | *fried rice* 2 [I] *infml* to get SUNBURN: *We'll fry if we stay too long in this hot sun.* —see also DEEP FRY, SMALL FRY, STIR-FRY; see COOK (USAGE)

**fry·er**, **frier** /'fraɪə/ *n* 1 (often in *comb.*) a deep pan for frying food: *a fish fryer* 2 AmE a chicken for frying

**frying pan** /'· · ·/ also **skillet** AmE—*n* 1 a flat pan with a long handle, used for frying food: *a non-stick frying pan* 2 out of the frying pan into the fire out of a bad position into an even worse one —see picture at PAN

**fry·up** /'· ·/ *n* BrE *infml* (a dish cooked by) frying various foods, such as eggs, SAUSAGES, potatoes, etc., in order to make a quick meal: *I'm going to do/have a fry-up for supper.*

**FS** *written abbrev. for:* FOREIGN SERVICE

**FSLIC** /,ef es ,el aɪ 'sɪz/ [*the*] Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation, which INSURES (=protects) the money people have in US SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATIONS

**f·stop** /'· ·/ *n* the number which tells the size of the APERTURE of a camera; the f-stop can usu. be changed by the person using the camera, to let in more or less light

**ft** *written abbrev. for:* FOOT<sup>1</sup> (5): *He is 6ft (=feet) tall.*

**FT** /,ef 'ti:z/ [*the*] *abbrev. for:* FINANCIAL TIMES

**FTC** /,ef ti: 'sɪz/ [*the*] Federal Trade Commission; the department of the US government that is concerned with trade laws and practices

**FT index** /,ef ti: 'ɪndeks/ *abbrev. for:* FINANCIAL TIMES INDEX

**FT 100 Share Index** /,ef ti: wʌn ,hʌndrɪd 'ʃeə ,ɪndeks/ also **FT-SE-100**, **FT-SE**, **Footsie** *infml*—*n* [*the*] Financial Times Stock Exchange 100 Index; the main measure of the amount by which the leading 100 shares sold on the London STOCK EXCHANGE have gone up or down in value. It is brought up to date every minute of the working day.

**FT-SE index** /'futsi ,ɪndeks/ *n* see FT 100 SHARE INDEX

**fuch·sia** /'fju:ʃə/ *n* a graceful garden bush with hanging bell-shaped flowers in two colours of red, pink, bluish-red, or white

**fuck**<sup>1</sup> /fʌk/ *v* [I; T] *taboo sl* to have sex (with)  
**fuck about/around** *phr v* [I] *taboo sl, esp. BrE* to waste time; act in a useless or stupid way  
**fuck off** *phr v* [I] *usu. imperative* *taboo sl* 1 to go away 2 to stop being troublesome or annoying

**fuck sthg.** ↔ **up** *phr v* [T] *taboo sl* to spoil; ruin —**fuck-up** /'· ·/ *n* *taboo sl:* *He's been responsible for a series of major fuck-ups.*

**fuck**<sup>2</sup> *n* [*usu. sing.*] *taboo sl* 1 an act of having sex 2 not care/give a fuck not to care at all

**fuck**<sup>3</sup> *interj* *taboo sl* (used as an expression of annoyance)

**fuck all** /'· ·/ *n* [U] *taboo sl, esp. BrE* nothing at all: *It's got fuck all to do with you, so just mind your own business!*

**fuck·er** /'fʌkə/ *n* *taboo sl* a stupid or greatly disliked person, esp. a man; fool

**fuck·ing** /'fʌkɪŋ/ *adj, adv* [A] *taboo* 1 (used to give force to an expression, esp. showing extreme annoyance): *You fucking idiot!* 2 (used as an almost meaningless addition to speech): *I got my fucking foot caught in the fucking chair!*

**fud·dle**<sup>1</sup> /'fʌdl/ *v* [T] *infml* to make (a person, the mind, etc.) slow and unable to work clearly, esp. as a result of drinking too much alcohol: *Too much strong drink will fuddle your brain.* | *a fuddled old man*

**fuddle**<sup>2</sup> *n* in a fuddle *infml* unable to think clearly; confused: *My grandad gets in a fuddle if he has too many things to do.*

**fud·dy·dud·dy** /'fʌdi ,dʌdi/ *n* *derog* a person who does not understand or approve of modern ideas: *Uncle Ernest's a bit of an old fuddy-duddy; he still believes women shouldn't smoke.* | *fuddy-duddy ideas*

**fudge**<sup>1</sup> /fʌdʒ/ *n* [U] 1 a soft creamy light brown sweet made of sugar, milk, butter, etc. 2 an action which provides an answer to a problem but not in a satisfactory way

**fudge**<sup>2</sup> *v* *derog* 1 [T (UP)] to put together roughly or dishonestly: *There's nothing new in this book; the writer has fudged up a lot of old ideas.* | *The figures on the latest report have been fudged.* 2 [I (on); T] to avoid taking firm action on (something): *The government have fudged the issue of equal rights because they're afraid it would make them unpopular.* | *They have tended to fudge on matters of economic policy.*

**fuel**<sup>1</sup> /'fju:əl/ *n* [C;U] (a) material that is used for producing heat or power by burning or by atomic means: *Petrol is no longer a cheap fuel.* | *Wood, coal, oil, gas, and plutonium are different kinds of fuel.* | *a fuel pump* | *fuel bills* | *high fuel consumption* | *a fuel-efficient engine* | (fig.) *The workers weren't satisfied with their wages, and when they were asked to work longer hours, it added fuel to the flames.* (=made them even more angry)

**fuel**<sup>2</sup> *v* -ll- BrE || -l- AmE 1 [T] to provide with fuel: *The car is being fuelled in preparation for the race.* | (fig.) *His provocative words only fuelled the argument further.* 2 [I (UP)] to take in fuel: *Aircraft sometimes fuel (up) in midair.* —see also REFUEL

**fuel in·jec·tion** /'· · · ·/ *n* [U] a method of putting liquid fuel directly into an INTERNAL-COMBUSTION ENGINE which allows a car to ACCELERATE more quickly. Cars with fuel injection engines are relatively expensive and have a modern, sporty image. —compare GTI—**fuel injected** *adj*

**fug** /fʌg/ *n* [S] *infml, esp. BrE* a heavy unpleasant airless condition of a room, etc., caused by heat, smoke, or the presence of many people: *There's a terrible fug in here; please open the window!* —*~gy adj*: *a fuggy atmosphere*

**fu·gi·tive** /'fju:dʒɪtv/ *n* [(from)] *fml* a person escaping from the law, the police, danger, etc.: *Three fugitives are still at large* (=haven't been caught) *following the prison escape.* | *a fugitive from justice*

**fugue** /fju:ɡ/ *n* a piece of music in which one or two tunes are repeated by different parts or voices

**führ·er**, **fuehrer** /'fju:əɪ/ *n* a leader with extreme authority, esp. Adolf Hitler, leader of the Nazis, before and during the Second World War

**Fu·ji** /'fudʒi/, **Mount** a VOLCANO, which is no longer active and is the highest point in Japan. It is a place of PILGRIMAGE and it is known for its perfectly formed snow-covered top.

**Fujitsu** a Japanese company making computers, FAX machines and other electronic products

**Ful·bright Schol·ar·ship** /'fʊlbraɪt ,skɒləʃɪp/ || - ,skɑ:lər-/ *n* any of a number of SCHOLARSHIPS (1) which provide for exchanges of university students and teachers between the US and other countries —**Scholar** *n*



**ful-crum** /'fulkrəm, 'fʌl-/ *n* -crums or -cra /krə/ *tech* the point on which a bar (LEVER) turns, balances, or is supported in lifting or moving something

**ful-fil** *BrE* || also **fulfill** *AmE* /fʊl'fɪl/ *v* -ll- [T] 1 to carry out (an order, conditions, etc.); obey: *The conditions of the contract must be fulfilled exactly.* 2 *fml* to do or perform (a duty, etc.): *A nurse has many duties to fulfil in caring for the sick.* | *This chimney fulfils the function of taking away gas fumes.* 3 to supply or satisfy (a need, demand, or purpose): *The travelling library fulfils an important need for people who live in country areas.* | *This company should be able to fulfil our requirements.* | *He finds his work very fulfilling.* (=enjoys it very much) 4 to make or prove to be true; cause (something wished for or planned) to happen: *The old prophecy that the world would come to an end after a thousand years was not fulfilled.* | *If he's lazy, he'll never fulfil his ambition to be a doctor.* | *"I'll never learn to speak English!" "That's a self-fulfilling prophecy."* (=if you believe this, it will come true) 5 to develop and express the abilities, qualities, character, etc., of (oneself) fully: *She succeeded in fulfilling herself both as an actress and as a mother.*

**ful-fil-ment** *BrE* || also **fulfillment** *AmE* /fʊl'fɪlmənt/ *n* [U] 1 the act of fulfilling or state of being fulfilled: *After many years, our plans have come to fulfilment.* | *the fulfilment of a promise* 2 satisfaction after successful effort: *He gets a great sense of fulfilment from his work with the mentally handicapped.*

**Ful-ham** /'fʊləm/ an area of west London which has become a more fashionable place to live in recent years

**Fulham Pal-ace** /,fʊləm 'pæləs/ the official home of the Bishop of London

**full** /fʊl/ *adj* 1 [(of, UP)] (of a container or space) holding as much or as many as possible or reasonable; filled completely: *You can't put any more liquid into that bottle – it's full.* | *After the storm, the holes in the road were full of rainwater.* | *The train's full (up); there are no seats left at all.* | *The drawer was full up with old clothes.* | *It's rude to talk with your mouth full.* | *The wine glass was already full to the brim.* (=there was no room for even a single drop of wine) | (*infml*) *The little cinema was full to bursting.* (=could not hold any more people) | (*fig.*) *The doctor has a very full day before him.* (=has work to do all the time) 2 [(of )] (of a container) holding liquid, powder, etc., as near to the top as is needed or convenient: *They brought us out a pot full of steaming coffee.* | *This bag of flour is only half full.* (=contains half the amount that it can hold) | *Don't fill my cup too full.* 3 [F+of ] containing or having plenty (of): *The field was full of sheep.* | *This work's full of mistakes.* | *Her eyes were full of tears.* | *Every time they meet us, they're full of complaints about something.* | *The children were full of excitement at the thought of their coming holiday.* | *a soup full of flavour* 4 [(UP)] *infml* well fed, often to the point of discomfort; satisfied: *I can't eat any more; I'm full (up).* | *You shouldn't go swimming on a full stomach.* (=just after you have eaten a meal) 5 [A] complete; whole: *The full truth of the matter can never be told.* | *Please write down your full name and address.* | *You have my full support.* | *He's been away for a full year now.* | *For a full report on the prime minister's speech, turn to page seven.* | *It was only later that I realized the full implications of what she had said.* | *She rose to her full height.* (=stood up very straight and proudly) | *Only full members of the club* (=those with all the rights of membership) *are allowed to vote at meetings.* | *My foot caught in the step, and I fell full length.* (=flat on the ground) | *The incident took place in full view of the television cameras.* | *He has led a full life.* (=has had every kind of experience) | *I believe her, but I don't think she's telling us the full story.* (=everything she knows) 6 [A] the highest or greatest possible: *He drove the car at full speed through the town.* | *Only a very good student can obtain full marks in such a difficult exam.* | *Up on the hill, the full force of the wind can be felt.* | *The riders crossed the plain at full gallop.* (=as fast as they could) 7 [F+of ] having the mind and attention fixed only (on); thinking and talking of nothing else (except): *Some people are too full of their own troubles to care about anyone else.* | *She's rather full of herself.* (=she thinks she's very important) | *He's full of his plans to visit America.* (=talks a lot about them) 8 (of clothing) containing a lot of material; fitting loosely: *The wedding dress had a tight bodice, full sleeves, and a full*

*skirt.* 9 (of a shape, a body, or its parts) a often *apprec* round; rounded; fleshy: *Her face was full.* | *She was full in the face when she was younger; now it's much thinner.* | *full breasts* *b euph* fat: *This shop sells dresses for the fuller figure.* 10 *apprec* (of colour, smell, sound, taste, or substance) deep, rich, and powerful: *He likes a wine with a full body.* (=having strength or substance) | *This cheese should be served at room temperature to bring out its lovely full flavour.* –see also FULLNESS, FULLY, full of beans (BEAN), (at) full blast (BLAST<sup>1</sup> (7)), come full circle (CIRCLE<sup>1</sup>), in full cry (CRY<sup>2</sup>), (at) full pelt (PELT<sup>2</sup>), in full swing (SWING<sup>2</sup>), (at) full tilt (TILT<sup>2</sup>)

**full**<sup>2</sup> *adv* [+adv/prep] 1 straight; directly: *The ball struck him full on the chest.* | *The sun shone full in her face.* 2 very; quite: *They knew full well that he wouldn't keep his promise.* 3 full out rare at full power; at top speed; flat out (FLAT<sup>3</sup>)

**full**<sup>3</sup> *n* 1 in full completely: *The debt must be paid in full.* 2 to the full to the greatest degree: *To appreciate this opera to the full, you need to read the story first.*

**full-back** /'fʊlbæk/ *n* 1 (esp. in football) a defending player whose position is at the end of their own half of the field, farthest from the centre 2 in American football, an attacking player who usually works to block the defending team and keep them away from the QUARTERBACK – compare HALFBACK

**full beam** /,fʊl 'biːm/ *n* [S] *BrE* the full strength of a car's HEADLIGHTS

**full-blood-ed** /,fʊl 'blʊdəd/ *adj* [A] 1 of unmixed race: *He's a full-blooded Indian.* 2 having all the typical qualities (of something) to a great degree: *a full-blooded Socialist* 3 forceful: *They were having a full-blooded argument.* – ~ness *n* [U]

**full-blown** /,fʊl 'bləʊn/ *adj* 1 [A] fully developed; possessing all the usual or necessary qualities: *We're afraid that the fighting on the border may develop into a full-blown war.* | *He has developed full-blown AIDS.* 2 often *lit* (of a flower) completely open

**full board** /,fʊl 'bɔːd/ *n* [U] (in hotels, etc.) the providing of all meals: *The room with full board will be £60 a week.* – compare HALF BOARD

**full-bodied** /,fʊl 'bɒdɪd/ *adj* *apprec* strong; heavy and rich in taste: *a fine full-bodied red wine*

**full-court press** /,fʊl 'kɔːt/ *n* *AmE infml* (in BASKETBALL) a method of defence in which the team with the ball is followed all over the playing area, not only in the part where their basket is: (*fig.*) *The Justice Department and the DEA have launched a full-court press against Noriega, with dozens of people working on the case.*

**full-cream** /,fʊl 'kriːm/ *BrE* || whole *AmE* – *adj* made of milk which has not had any of the cream removed – compare SEMI-SKIMMED

**full dress** /,fʊl 'dres/ *n* [U] special dress worn on special or ceremonial occasions – compare EVENING DRESS, HIGHLAND DRESS, MORNING DRESS

**full em-ploy-ment** /,fʊl 'ɛm-ploɪmənt/ *n* [U] a situation existing in a country, society, etc. where everyone who wants a job is able to get one because there is enough work available – compare UNEMPLOYMENT

**Ful-ler** /'fʊlə/, **Rich-ard Buck-min-ster** /'rɪtʃəd 'bʌkmɪnstər/ || -tʃərd-/ (1895–1983) an American ARCHITECT and engineer

**fuller's earth** /,fʊl 'ɜːθ/ *n* [U] dried clay sometimes made into a powder, used in former times for removing oil from cloth, but now used esp. in treating impure oils, to make them clearer and lighter

**full-fash-ioned** /,fʊl 'fæʃənəd/ *adj* *AmE* for FULLY-FASHIONED

**full-fledged** /,fʊl 'fledʒəd/ *adj* *esp. AmE* for FULLY-FLEDGED

**full-grown** /,fʊl 'grəʊn/ also **fully-grown** *BrE* – *adj* (esp. of an animal, plant, or (*tech*) person) completely developed; that is not going to grow any larger: *A full-grown elephant can weigh over 6000 kilograms.*

**full house** /,fʊl 'haʊs/ *n* 1 (at a cinema, sports ground, etc.) an occasion when every seat is taken: *We've had five full houses this week – it's a very popular film.* 2 (in the card game of POKER) three cards of one kind and a pair of another kind: *I've got a full house, fives over jacks.* (=three fives and two jacks)

**full-length** /,fʊl 'lɛŋθ/ *adj* 1 (of a photograph, painting, etc.)



showing all of a person, from their head to their feet: *a full-length portrait of the queen* **2** (of clothing) reaching to the ground: *a full-length evening dress* **3** (of a play, book, etc.) not short; not shorter than is usual: *a full-length feature film*

**full moon** /fʊlˈmʊn/ *n* the moon when seen as a complete circle: *A full moon shone brightly.* —compare HALF MOON, NEW MOON

► **CULTURAL NOTE** Some people believe that a full moon can cause people to behave in a strange or dangerous manner. In stories, people sometimes turn into werewolves (WEREWOLF) when there is a full moon. ◀

**full-ness, fulness** /'fʊlnəs/ *n* [U] **1** the condition of being full: *a contented feeling of fullness* **2** in the fullness of time *esp. lit or fml* when the right time comes/came: *You may have to suffer hardships now, but in the fullness of time you will have your reward.*

**full-page** /fʊlˈpeɪʒ/ *adj* [A] covering the whole of a page, esp. in a newspaper or magazine: *a full-page advertisement*

**full pro-fes-sor** /fʊlˈprɒfəsə/ *n* a PROFESSOR (=teacher) at an American university who has the highest rank and possesses TENURE (=the right to keep a job) —compare ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR

**full-scale** /fʊlˈskeɪl/ *adj* **1** (of a model, drawing, copy, etc.) of the same size as the object represented: *There is a full-scale model of an elephant at the museum.* **2** [A] complete; total; with the use of all possible means: *The government has ordered a full-scale inquiry into the train crash.* | *The dispute between the countries nearly developed into a full-scale war.* | *a full-scale attack on the enemy position*

**full-size** /fʊlˈsaɪz/ *adj* containing or being the usual amount or size of a thing: *Send in two proof-of-purchase seals from full-size packets of Crimples for your free recipe book.*

**full stop** /fʊlˈstɒp/ *n* **1** also **period** *AmE*—a point (.) marking the end of a sentence or a shortened form of a word: *Put in a full stop after “now”.* —see picture at PUNCTUATION MARK **2** *esp. BrE* for PERIOD (5b): *I’m not going, full stop!* **3** **come to a full stop** to stop completely, esp. because of a problem or difficulty

**full-term** /fʊlˈtɜːm/ *adj* born after a PREGNANCY of the usual length: *a full-term baby* —compare PREMATURE (2)

**full-time** /fʊlˈtaɪm/ *adj, adv* working or giving work during the whole of the usual working period: *After a lot of part-time jobs he’s finally got a full-time job.* | *She’s a full-time student at the university.* | *He used to work full-time, but now he only works four days a week.* | *He’s in full-time employment.* | (fig.) *It’s a full-time job* (=leaves one no free time) *looking after three young children.* —compare PART-TIME

► **CULTURAL NOTE** Jobs which require 35 or more hours a week are usually considered full-time. Wages and FRINGE BENEFITS offered with a job often vary according to whether the job is full-time or part-time. ◀

**full time** /fʊlˈtaɪm/ *n* [U] *BrE* (in certain sports, esp. football) the end of the fixed period of time during which a match is played: *At full time neither team had scored, so they had to play another half hour to decide the match.* —compare HALF TIME

**full toss** /fʊlˈtɒs/ also **full pitch**—*n* *BrE* a ball which is bowled (BOWL<sup>2</sup> (16)), esp. in cricket, so that it does not touch the ground before reaching the BATSMAN

**ful-ly** /'fʊli/ *adv* **1** completely; altogether: *I don’t fully understand his reasons for leaving.* | *Is she fully satisfied with the present arrangement?* | *a fully-trained nurse* **2** *fml* quite; at least: *It’s fully an hour since he left.*

**fully-fash-ioned** /fʊlˈfæʃənəd/ *BrE* || **full-fashioned** *AmE*—*adj* (of knitted (KNIT) clothing) made to fit the shape of the body exactly: *fully-fashioned tights*

**fully-fledged** /fʊlˈfledʒd/ *esp. BrE* || **full-fledged** *esp. AmE*—*adj* **1** (of a young bird) having grown all its feathers, and now able to fly **2** completely trained: *After seven years of training she’s now a fully-fledged doctor.*

**fully-grown** /fʊlˈgrəʊn/ *adj* *esp. BrE* for FULL-GROWN

**ful-mar** /'fʊlmɑːr, -mɑːr/ *n* a seabird that lives near the coasts of cold northern countries

**ful-mi-nate** /'fʊlmɪneɪt, 'fʌl-/ *v* [I (against, at)] *fml* to declare one’s opposition very strongly and angrily: *The*

*preacher fulminated against the use of alcohol.* —**nation** /'fʊlmɪˈneɪʃən, 'fʌl-/ *n* [C;U]

**ful-ness** /'fʊlnəs/ *n* [U] FULLNESS

**ful-some** /'fʊlsəm/ *adj fml* giving an unnecessarily large amount of praise; EFFUSIVE: *I was embarrassed by their fulsome expressions of admiration.* | *Her speech of thanks was a little too fulsome.* —*ly adv* —*ness n* [U]

**Ful-ton** /'fʊltən/, **Rob-ert** /'rɒbət/ || 'rɑːbɜːt/ (1765–1815) an American engineer and inventor who produced several STEAMSHIPS

**Fu Man-chu** /fʊː mæn'tʃuː/ *n* an evil Oriental character in stories by Sax Rohmer. He is remembered for his heavy MOUSTACHE with ends that turn down and for having his hair in a PIGTAIL (tied together at the back): *wearing a Fu Manchu moustache and heavy sunglasses*

**fum-ble** /'fʌmbəl/ *v* **1** [I (ABOUT, AROUND, FOR)] to move the fingers or hands awkwardly in search of something, or in an attempt to do something: *She fumbled about in her handbag for a pen.* | *He fumbled for the light switch.* | (fig.) *He’s not a very good public speaker; he often has to fumble for the right word.* **2** [T] to spoil or not succeed at by mishandling: *He fumbled the catch and dropped the ball.* **3** [I;T] (in American football) to drop (the ball) after having taken hold of it —**fumble n**

**fume** /fjuːm/ *v* [I] **1** to be angry and restless, but often without expressing one’s feelings fully: *She was fuming with annoyance because the books hadn’t arrived.* | *He fumed at the delay.* | “Was he angry?” “Yes, he was really fuming.” **2** rare to give off fumes; smoke

**fumes** /fjuːmz/ *n* [P] heavy strong-smelling air given off from smoke, gas, fresh paint, etc., that causes an unpleasant sensation when breathed in: *She felt sick from breathing in paint fumes.* | *The air in the railway carriage was thick with tobacco fumes.* | *Petrol fumes from car engines poison the air.*

**fu-mi-gate** /'fjuːmɪgeɪt/ *v* [T] to clear of disease, bacteria, or harmful insects by means of chemical smoke or gas: *The man was found to have an infectious disease, so all his clothes, his bed, and his room had to be fumigated.* —*~compare SMOKE out* —**-gation** /'fjuːmɪˈgeɪʃən/ *n* [U]

**fun**<sup>1</sup> /fʌn/ *n* [U] **1** (a cause of) amusement, enjoyment, or pleasure: *Children get a lot of fun out of dressing in older people’s clothes.* | *You’re sure to have fun at the party tonight.* | *It’s fun to try out new recipes.* | *There’s no fun in spending the evening doing nothing.* | *Have fun!* (=Enjoy yourself!) | *Swimming in the sea is great/good fun.* (=is very enjoyable) | *He’s learning French for fun/for the fun of it.* (=just for pleasure) | *It’s not much fun being unemployed.* | *What fun!* (=How enjoyable!) **2** amusement caused by laughing at someone else: *He’s become just a figure of fun* — *no one takes him seriously any more.* **3** playfulness: *The little dog’s full of fun.* **4** in fun in playfulness; without serious or harmful intention: *The children played a trick on the teacher but it was all in good fun.* **5** make fun of to laugh, or cause others to laugh, rather unkindly at: *People make fun of her because she wears such strange hats.* —see also FUNNY, poke fun at (POKE<sup>1</sup>)

**fun**<sup>2</sup> *adj* [A] *apprec, esp. AmE* providing pleasure, amusement, or enjoyment: *She’s a fun person to be with.*

**fun and games** /fʊnˈændˌɡeɪms/ *n* [P] *infml* **1** playful tricks; high-spirited behaviour of a group: *The children were having some fun and games while the teacher was out of the room.* **2** exciting activity: *There’ll be some fun and games if the newspapers get hold of this scandal!*

**function**<sup>1</sup> /'fʌŋkʃən/ *n* **1** [C] a natural or usual duty (of a person) or purpose (of a thing): *The function of a chairman is to lead and control meetings.* | *The brain performs a very important function; it controls the nervous system of the body.* | *to fulfil a useful social function* **2** [U] the way in which something works: *a disease impairing the function of the brain* **3** [C] a public ceremony: *The minister has to attend all kinds of official functions, such as dinners to welcome foreign guests of the government, and the openings of new schools and hospitals.* **b** *infml* a large or important gathering of people for pleasure or on some special occasion: “You look as if you’re dressed for some function or other.” “Yes, I’m going to a friend’s wedding.” **4** **a** [(C of)] *tech* (in MATHEMATICS) a value which varies as another value varies: *In  $x=5y$ ,  $x$  is a function of  $y$ .* **b** [+of] a quality or fact which depends on and varies



with another: *The size of the crop is a function of the quality of the soil and the amount of rainfall.*

**function**<sup>2</sup> *v* [I] (esp. of a thing) to be in action; work; operate: *The machine will not function properly if it is not kept well-oiled.*

**function** as sthg. *phr v* [T] to fulfil the duty or purpose of; be: *This chair can also function as a bed.*

**func-tion-al** /'fʌŋkʃənəl/ *adj* **1** made for or concerned with practical use only, without decoration: *I don't like this functional modern furniture; it's so uncomfortable.* | *a rather functional piece of writing* **2** [no comp.] functioning; working properly: *"Is this machine functional?" "No; it needs repairing."* **3** [no comp.] having a function: *"Is this handle functional?" "No; it's only for decoration."* — opposite **nonfunctional** — *~ly adv*

**func-tion-al-is-m** /'fʌŋkʃənəlɪzəm/ *n* [U] the idea and practice of making buildings and other objects for use and convenience without considering beauty or appearance — *ist n, adj*

**func-tion-ary** /'fʌŋkʃənəri/ *n* often *derog* a person who has unimportant or unnecessary official duties

**function key** /'fʌŋkʃənəl/ *n* a key on the KEYBOARD of a machine such as a computer or a calculator which tells the machine which action to perform

**fund**<sup>1</sup> /fʌnd/ also **funds** *pl.* — *n* a supply or sum of money set apart for a special purpose: *Part of the school sports fund will be used to improve the football pitch.* | *We made a contribution to the famine relief fund.* | *The cost is being repaid out of government funds.* | *She's the manager of a pension fund for a large manufacturer.* | (*infml* or *humor*) *I'm a bit short of funds* (=I haven't got much money) *at the moment.* | (*fig.*) *She's got a fund of amusing jokes.*

**fund**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T] **1** to provide money for (an activity, organization, etc.): *The scientists' search for a cure for this disease is being funded by the government.* **2** *tech* to make (a debt) into a lasting debt on which a fixed yearly interest will be paid

**fun-da-men-tal**<sup>1</sup> /'fʌndə'mentl/ *adj* **1** a (of a quality, idea, development, etc.) being at the base, from which all else develops; deep; BASIC: *There's a fundamental difference in attitude between these two politicians.* | *The changes will have to be fundamental if they are to have any effect.* **b** of the greatest importance; having a greater effect than all others: *The fundamental purpose of my plan is to encourage further development.* [+to] *A knowledge of economics is fundamental to any understanding of this problem.* **2** [A] (of a quality) belonging to a person's or thing's deep true character: *He has some rather strange ideas sometimes, but no one can doubt his fundamental good sense.* — see also **FUNDAMENTALLY**

**fundamental**<sup>2</sup> *n* [often *pl.*] a rule, law, etc., on which a system is based; necessary or important part: *If the boys are going to camp for ten days, they'll need to know the fundamentals of cooking.*

**fundamental force** /'fʌndə'mentl/ *n* *tech* any of the four forces in the universe that are said to be properties of matter. They are GRAVITY, ELECTROMAGNETISM, the STRONG FORCE, and the WEAK FORCE.

**fun-da-men-tal-is-m** /'fʌndə'mentəlɪzəm/ *n* [U] **1** the practice of following the rules of a religion, such as Christianity or Islam, very strictly and exactly **2** an American religious movement among some Protestant Christians, esp. in the south, which includes belief in the VIRGIN BIRTH, the SECOND COMING of Christ, and that the truth of the Bible must not be questioned. Fundamentalists do not believe in EVOLUTION and have sometimes tried to stop it being taught in schools.

**fun-da-men-tal-ist** /'fʌndə'mentəlɪst/ *n* someone who follows the rules of a religion, such as Christianity or Islam, very strictly and exactly: *Islamic fundamentalists* — **fundamentalist** *adj*

**fun-da-men-tal-ly** /'fʌndə'mentəli/ *adv* in every way that really matters or is important; ESSENTIALLY: *Although a few of your facts aren't right, your answer is fundamentally correct.* | *She is fundamentally unsuited to office work.*

**fund-hold-er** /'fʌndhəʊldə/ *n* *BrE* a NHS doctor who controls his/her own BUDGET (=amount of money set aside for spending)

**fund rais-er** /'fʌnˌraɪzə/ *n* a person or an event which collects money for a specific cause, usu. in support of a CHARITY — **fund raising** *n* [U]

**fu-ne-ral** /'fju:nərəl/ *n* **1** a ceremony, usu. religious, of burying or burning a dead person: *The old lady's funeral was held at the local church.* | *The bishop conducted her funeral service.* | *a funeral procession* | *a funeral pyre* — see also *ashes to ashes, dust to dust* (ASH), *in the midst of life we are in death* (LIFE) **2** be someone's funeral *infml* to concern or be important for someone, and no one else: *If you miss the train, that's your funeral* — *don't expect the rest of us to wait for you.*

► **CULTURAL NOTE** Funerals usually take place in a church or CHAPEL. Anyone who wants to may go to a funeral, and it is usual for close friends and relatives of the dead person to attend. The COFFIN (= long box for the dead body) is carried to the church or chapel in a special black car (HEARSE), with close relatives following in other black cars. At some funerals in the US the coffin is open and people look at the dead person before the funeral service starts. The funeral service usually includes music and prayers, and sometimes there is a special speech about the life of the person who has died. After the funeral, the body is either buried in a churchyard or CEMETARY, or burned (CREMATED) in a special building (CREMATORIUM). If the person is buried, there is usually a short ceremony beside the person's GRAVE (= hole where they are buried) and people throw earth into the grave. If the body is burnt the ASHES are usu. given to the family later, who then spread them around a pleasant place such as a garden. People usually wear black or dark-coloured clothes to funerals. Women in the family of the dead person sometimes wear VEILS (= pieces of cloth they can see through) over their faces. People usually send flowers in advance to a funeral, with a short message about the person who has died. ◀

**funeral di-rec-tor** /'fʌnərəlˈdɪrɪktər/ also **mortician** *AmE* — *n* *fm* a person whose business is to arrange for dead people to be buried or burned; UNDERTAKER

**funeral home** /'fʌnərəlˈhoʊm/ also **funeral parlor** /'fʌnərəlˈpɑːlər/ *AmE* — *n* a funeral director's place of business

**fu-ne-ra-ry** /'fju:nərəri/ *adj* [A] *tech* suited or used for a funeral: *a funerary urn* (=a large container for the ashes of a person)

**fu-ne-re-al** /'fju:nəriəl/ *adj* heavy and sad; suitable for a funeral: *They went along at a funereal pace.* (=very slowly) | *funereal music* — *~ly adv*

**fun-fair** /'fʌnfɛər/ *BrE* || **carnival** *AmE* — *n* a noisy brightly-lit outdoor show at which one can ride on machines, play games of skill for small prizes, and enjoy other amusements, and that usu. moves from town to town

**fun-gi-cide** /'fʌŋdʒɪsaɪd, -gɪ-/ *n* [C;U] a chemical substance used for destroying or preventing fungus

**fun-goid** /'fʌŋɡɔɪd/ *adj* *tech* like a fungus; of the nature of a fungus: *fungoid growths*

**fun-gous** /'fʌŋɡəs/ *adj* *tech* **1** of, like, or related to fungus **2** caused by a fungus: *fungous plant diseases*

**fungus**



**fun-gus** /'fʌŋɡəs/ *n* -gi /dʒaɪ, gaɪ/ or -guses **1** [C] a simple fast-growing plant without flowers, leaves, or green colouring, which may either be in a large form, with a fleshy stem supporting a broad rounded top (MUSHROOMS, TOADSTOOLS, etc.), or in a very small form, with a powderlike appearance (MILDEW, MOULD, etc.): *edible fungi* **2** [U] these plants in general, esp. considered as a disease: *My roses were suffering from fungus.* | *Fungus can cause wooden floorboards to decay.*

**fu-nic-u-lar** /'fju:nɪkjʊlə/ also **funicular rail-way** /'fju:nɪkjʊlə/ *n* a small railway up a slope or a mountain, worked



by a thick metal rope, often with one carriage going up as another comes down

**funk**<sup>1</sup> /fʌŋk/ *n* in a (blue) **funk** *old-fash* in a state of great fear; unable to face a difficulty or an unpleasant duty

**funk**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T] *old-fash* to (try to) avoid (something or doing something) because of fear or lack of will: [+*v-ing*] *We all funked telling her the truth.*

**funk**<sup>3</sup> *n* [U] a type of modern popular esp. dance music with a heavy regular beat

**funk-hole** /'fʌŋkhəʊl/ *n* *AmE sl* a place where one can hide for shelter or esp. to avoid military service

**funk-y** /'fʌŋki/ *adj infml, esp. AmE* 1 (of JAZZ or similar music) having a simple direct style and feeling 2 *apprec* (of clothes, cars, possessions) not new but still usable and sometimes unusual in appearance or purpose: *He has a funky old Rambler but it starts every morning.* | *We just bought \$10 worth of funky clothes at the Salvation Army.*

**funky chick-en** /'fʌŋki/ *n* [the] a type of dance done to popular music that was fashionable in the 1970s

**fun-nel**<sup>1</sup> /'fʌnl/ *n* 1 a wide-mouthed tube used for pouring liquids or powders into a container with a narrow neck: *He poured oil into the bottle through a funnel.* —see picture at LABORATORY 2 also **smokestack** *AmE*— a metal chimney for letting out smoke from a steam engine or steamship

**funnel**<sup>2</sup> *v* -ll- *BrE* || -l- *AmE* 1 [I+*adv/prep*] (esp. of something large or made up of many parts) to pass through a narrow space: *The large crowd funnelled out of the gates after the football match.* 2 [T+*obj+adv/prep*] to pass (as if) through a funnel: *He funnelled the oil into the bottle.*

**fun-nies** /'fʌniz/ also **funny papers**— *n* [the + P] *AmE infml* COMICS

**fun-ni-ly** /'fʌnɪli/ *adv* 1 in a strange or unusual way: *She's been acting rather funnily just recently.* 2 in an amusing way 3 **funnily enough** *BrE* || **funny enough** *AmE*— strangely or unexpectedly: *Funnily enough, I was just about to phone you when you called me.*

**fun-ny** /'fʌni/ *adj* 1 causing laughter; amusing: *a funny joke/speech* | *He's a very funny man.* (=can make people laugh with amusing stories, etc.) | *I don't think that's at all funny.* (=is a fit cause for laughter) | *She was angry at first, but then she saw the funny side of the situation.* 2 strange; unexpected; hard to explain: *What can that funny noise be?* | *It's a funny thing, but I put the book on the table five minutes ago, and now I can't find it.* | *It's funny that she left so suddenly.* | *He's a funny sort of person.* (=I don't understand him.) | (*infml*) *This telephone's gone funny!* (=it doesn't work properly) —see also FUNNILY 3 *infml* not quite correct; marked by dishonesty or cheating: *When I saw them whispering I knew there was something funny going on.* | *Don't try anything funny with me!* (=Don't try to trick me!) 4 [F] *infml* a slightly ill: *She always feels a bit funny if she looks down from a height.* **b euph** slightly mad: *He went a bit funny (in the head) after his wife died.* 5 **funny peculiar** or **funny ha-ha** a phrase used to make it clear when you use the word "funny" whether you mean "strange" or "amusing": *He had ever such a funny look on his face — I mean funny peculiar not funny ha-ha.*

**funny bone** /'fʌni/ also **crazy bone** *AmE*— *n infml* the tender part of the elbow, which hurts very much if it is knocked sharply

**funny busi-ness** /'fʌni/ also **funnies**— *n* [U] *infml* 1 dishonest dealing: *As soon as I examined the accounts I could see there'd been some funny business going on.* 2 silly or careless behaviour: *"Just keep your hands in the air," said the gunman. "I don't want any funny business."*

**funny farm** /'fʌni/ *n* *humor or derog, esp. AmE* a MENTAL HOSPITAL

**funny mon-ey** /'fʌni/ *n* [U] *infml* (a sum of) money that is so large as to seem unreal

**funny pa-pers** /'fʌni/ also **funnies**— *n* [the + P] *AmE infml* 1 COMICS 2 see you in the funny papers Good-bye

**fun run** /'fʌni/ *n* an event in which many people run over a long distance in order to collect money for people who are in need of help. Children may take part in a fun run as well as adults and, unlike a MARATHON, a fun run is not a serious competition but is purely for enjoyment and to raise money: *a fun run to raise money for the earthquake victims*

**fur**<sup>1</sup> /fɜːr/ *n* 1 [U] the soft thin hair that grows thickly over the body of some types of animal, such as bears, rabbits, cats, etc.: *The cat's fur was matted with blood.* | *coarse/silky fur* —compare HAIR (1,2) 2 [C] (clothing made from) a hair-covered skin of certain types of animal, such as foxes, rabbits, MINK, etc.: *She was wearing a silver fox fur across her shoulders.* | *The Canadian fur trader had a fine load of furs to sell after his hunting trip.* | *a fur coat* —see also FURRIER, SKIN<sup>1</sup> (2)

► **CULTURAL NOTE** Furs are expensive and it was formerly considered PRESTIGIOUS to wear them, but many people now believe that animals should not be killed for their fur and think that wearing furs is wrong. ◀

3 [U] a hard covering on the inside of pots, hot-water pipes, etc., formed by CALCIUM in heated water —see also SCALE<sup>2</sup> (2) 4 [U] an unhealthy greyish covering on the tongue. It happens when people are ill or have a HANGOVER 5 **the fur begins/starts to fly** a very fierce argument starts: *When she accused him of taking the money the fur really started to fly.* —see also FURRY

**fur**<sup>2</sup> *v* -rr- [I;T (UP)] to (cause to) become covered with FUR<sup>1</sup> (3,4): *The kettle was furred up.* | *a furred tongue*

**fur-bish** /'fɜːbɪʃ/ || 'fɜːr-/ *v* [T (UP)] *rare* to improve the appearance of (something old and worn) —see also REFURBISH

**Fu-ries** /'fjuəriːz/, **The** [P] in CLASSICAL MYTHOLOGY, three terrible winged female goddesses who punished people who did wrong, esp. to their own family

**fu-ri-ous** /'fjuəriəs/ *adj* 1 [F (with, at)] very angry in an uncontrolled way; in a FURY: *He'll be furious with us if we're late.* | *I was furious at being kept waiting.* | *She was furious to find (=when she found) that they had gone without her.* 2 [A] wild; uncontrolled: *a furious temper* | *There was a furious knocking at the door.* —~ly *adv* —~ness *n* [U]

**furl** /fɜːl||fɜːrl/ *v fml* [T] to roll or fold up (a sail, flag, UMBRELLA, etc.) —see also UNFURL

**fur-long** /'fɜːlɒŋ||'fɜːrlɒŋ/ *n* (a measure of length equal to) 220 yards (201 metres), now used mainly in horse racing

**fur-lough** /'fɜːləʊ||'fɜːr-/ *n* [C;U] absence from duty, usu. for a length of time, esp. as permitted to government officers, soldiers, and others serving outside their own country; holiday: *He's home on furlough.*

**fur-nace** /'fɜːnɪs||'fɜːr-/ *n* 1 an apparatus in a factory, in which metals and other substances are heated to very high temperatures in an enclosed space —see also BLAST FURNACE 2 a large enclosed fire used for producing hot water or steam: *This room's like a furnace.* (=it's much too hot) 3 *AmE* an apparatus which produces heat for the home

**fur-nish** /'fɜːnɪʃ||'fɜːr-/ *v* [T] 1 to put furniture in; supply with furniture: *It's costing us a fortune to furnish our new flat.* | *They're renting a furnished flat.* (=one with furniture already in it) | *a well-furnished room* | *a room furnished with antiques* 2 *fml* to supply (what is necessary for a special purpose): *This shop furnishes everything that is needed for camping.*

**furnish** sbdy./sthg. with sthg. *phr v* [T] *fml* to supply with (something necessary): *He furnished himself with a pencil and paper, and began to draw.* | *Our company can furnish you with all the necessary details.*

**fur-nish-ings** /'fɜːnɪʃɪŋz||'fɜːr-/ *n* [P] articles of furniture or other articles fixed in a room, such as a bath, curtains, etc. —compare FIXTURE; see also SOFT FURNISHINGS

**fur-ni-ture** /'fɜːnɪʃə||'fɜːr-/ *n* [U] large or quite large movable articles such as beds, chairs, and tables, that are placed in a house, room, or other area, in order to make it convenient, comfortable, and/or pleasant as a space for living in: *This old French table is a very valuable piece of furniture.* | *garden furniture*

**fu-ro-re** /fjuˈrɔːri, 'fjuərəːr||'fjuərəːr/ *BrE* || **fu-ror** /'fjuərəːr/ *AmE*— *n* [S] a sudden burst of angry or excited interest among a large group of people: *The news that the football club was selling its best player caused quite a furore.*

**fur-ri-er** /'fʌriə||'fɜːr-/ *n* a person who prepares furs for use as clothing, makes fur GARMENTS, and/or sells them

**fur-row**<sup>1</sup> /'fʌrəʊ||'fɜːr-/ *n* 1 a long narrow track cut by a PLOUGH in farming land when the earth is being turned over in preparation for planting 2 any long deep cut or



narrow hollow between raised edges, esp. in the earth **3** a deep line or fold in the skin of the face, esp. the forehead, often seen as a sign of worry or STRESS

**furrow**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T] to make furrows in: *The telescope showed the deeply furrowed surface of the planet.* | *She looked at the exam paper with a furrowed brow.* (=her forehead had lines in it because she was worried)

**fur-ry** /'fʊ:ri/ *adj* of, like, or covered with fur: *a furry little rabbit* | *furry material*

**fur-ther**<sup>1</sup> /'fʊ:ðə/ || 'fʊ:r-/ *adv* **1** (comparative of FAR) at or to a greater distance or more distant point; FARTHER: *He's too tired to walk any further.* | *He can swim further than I can.* [+adv/prep] *Our house is a bit further along the road.* | *The records don't go any further back than 1960.* | *No, I'm not thinking of getting married – nothing could be further from my mind!* **2** more; to a greater degree: *Don't try my patience any further.* | *We'll enquire further into this question tomorrow.* | *I have nothing further to say.* **3** *fml* in addition; FURTHERMORE: *The house is not large enough for us, and further, it is too far from the town.* **4** further to *fml* (used esp. in business letters) continuing the subject of: *Further to our letter of February 5th, we can now confirm that all the spare parts you requested are available.* **5** go further to give, do, or say more: *We'll go further into this question tomorrow.* (=make more enquiries) | *He was a very fine man; indeed I'll go (even) further, he was the most courageous man I ever knew.* – see FARTHER (USAGE)

**further**<sup>2</sup> *adj* [A] (comparative of FAR) **1** later than the one spoken of: *There'll be a further performance of the play next week.* | *The office will be closed until further notice.* (=until we inform you that it is open again) **2** more; additional: *Have you any further questions (to ask)?* | *If you have no further use for this book, I'll give it to someone else.* | *There being no further business, the meeting was closed.*

**further**<sup>3</sup> *v* [T] to help (something) advance or succeed: *This success should further your chances of promotion.* | *The society was dedicated to furthering the cause of world peace.*

**fur-ther-ance** /'fʊ:ðə'rəns/ || 'fʊ:r-/ *n* [U (of)] *fml* development; continuation: *In furtherance of their aim of improving the school, the Governors are building a new set of science classrooms.*

**further ed-u-ca-tion** /'fʊ:ðə'edʒə'shən/ || 'fʊ:r-/ *n* [U] BrE education after leaving school, but not at a university. It is most commonly available in further education colleges and many of the courses are intended to prepare people for work: *further education classes at the local college* – compare ADULT EDUCATION, CONTINUING EDUCATION, HIGHER EDUCATION

**fur-ther-more** /'fʊ:ðə'mɔ:ə/ || 'fʊ:rðə'mɔ:ə/ *adv fml* also; in addition to what has been said: *The house is too small for a family of four, and furthermore it is in a bad location.*

**fur-ther-most** /'fʊ:ðə'məʊst/ || 'fʊ:rðə-/ *adj esp. lit* most distant; farthest away: [A] *In the furthest corner of the hall sat a tall thin man.* [F+from] *in the corner furthest-most from the door*

**fur-the-st** /'fʊ:ðə'st/ || 'fʊ:r-/ *adj, adv* (superlative of FAR) **1** at or to the greatest distance; FARTHEST: *Who can jump (the) furthest?* [+adv/prep] *He lives the furthest from us.* **2** greatest in degree, distance, or time: *She went (the) furthest in condemning their policies.* – see FARTHER (USAGE)

**fur-tive** /'fʊ:tɪv/ || 'fʊ:r-/ *adj* quiet and secret; trying to escape notice or hide one's intentions: *She cast a furtive glance down the hotel corridor before leaving her room.* – ~ly *adv* – ~ness *n* [U]

**Furt-wäng-ler** /'fʊətvɛŋglə/ || 'fʊətvɛŋlɜ:/, **Wil-helm** /'vɪlhɛlm/ (1886–1954) a German CONDUCTOR and leader of the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra for many years

**fu-ry** /'fjʊəri/ *n* **1** [C;U] (a state of) very great anger; (an occasion of) being FURIOUS: *It's no use trying to argue with you when you fly into a fury* (=get very angry) *for the slightest reason.* | (fig.) *At last the fury* (=wild force) *of the storm lessened.* **2** [S (of)] a wildly excited state (of feeling or activity); FEVER: *There was a fury of activity on the morning of their departure.* **3** [C] old-fash *infml* a fierce angry woman or girl **4** like fury *infml* with great force or effort: *They worked like fury to get the car ready in time.* – see also full of sound and fury (SOUND<sup>1</sup> (5))

**furze** /fʊ:z/ || 'fʊ:rz/ *n* [U] a wild bush with prickly leaves and bright yellow flowers; GORSE

**fuse**<sup>1</sup> /fju:z/ *n* a (small container with a) short thin piece of wire, placed in an electric apparatus or system, which melts if too much electric power passes through it, and thus breaks the connection and prevents fires or other damage: *a five-amp fuse* | *You'll blow a fuse* (=make it melt) *if you try and plug the washing machine and the electric heater into the same socket.* | (fig.) *When her son broke the window, she blew a fuse.* (=lost her temper) – see also FUSED

**fuse**<sup>2</sup> *v* [I;T] **1** BrE to (cause to) stop working owing to the melting of a fuse: *If you plug in all these appliances at once, you'll fuse all the lights.* | *The lights have fused.* **2** to join or become joined by melting: *The aircraft came down in flames, and the heat fused most of the parts together into a solid mass.* – see also FUSION **3** to melt or cause (metal) to melt in great heat: *Lead will fuse at quite a low temperature.*

**fuse**<sup>3</sup> *n* **1** a long string or narrow pipe used for carrying fire to an explosive article and so causing it to blow up: *He paid out the fuse, lit it, and ran behind the rock for safety.* | (fig.) *She has a rather short fuse.* (=gets angry quickly) **2** an apparatus in a bomb, SHELL<sup>1</sup> (2), or other weapon, which causes it to explode

**fuse box** /'fju:z bɒks/ *n* a box in which the electric fuses for a house are stored

**fused** /fju:zd/ *adj* (of a piece of electrical apparatus) fitted with a FUSE<sup>1</sup>

**fu-se-lage** /'fju:zələʒ/ || -sə-/ *n* the main body of an aircraft, in which travellers and goods are carried – see picture at AIRCRAFT

**fu-sil-lade** /'fju:zəl'leɪd/ || -sɪ-/ *n* [(of)] a rapid continuous firing of shots: *As the soldiers marched forward, they were met by a fusillade of bullets from the fort.* | (fig.) *a fusillade of criticism*

**fu-sion** /'fju:zən/ *n* [U] esp. tech (a) joining together (as if) by melting: *This metal is formed by the fusion of two other types of metal.* | *Nuclear fusion works by the combining of atomic nuclei, which releases huge amounts of energy.* | *Her work is a fusion of several different styles of music.* – compare FISSION; see also COLD FUSION

**fusion bomb** /'fju:zən bɒm/ *n* a HYDROGEN BOMB

**fuss**<sup>1</sup> /fas/ *n* **1** [S;U] unnecessary, useless, or unwelcome expression of excitement, anger, impatience, etc.: *What a fuss about nothing!* | *Don't make so much fuss over losing a pen.* **2** [S] an expression of annoyance, esp. for a good reason: *There's sure to be a fuss when my parents find the window's broken.* | *I'm going to have to make a fuss* (=complain) *about the service in this restaurant.* | (infml) *The local residents are kicking up a fuss about the plans for the new airport.* **3** [S] an anxious nervous condition: *There's no need to get into a fuss; calm down!* **4** make a fuss of to pay a lot of attention to, in order to please or to show liking for: *Mary always makes a great fuss of her nieces.* – see also FUSSY

**fuss**<sup>2</sup> *v* **1** [I] to act or behave in a nervous, restless, and anxious way over small matters: *Don't fuss; we'll get there on time.* | *She fusses too much about her health.* **2** [T] to make nervous: *If you fuss him while he's adding up all those figures, he'll make a lot of mistakes.* **3** not be fussed (about) BrE infml not to care greatly (about something): *"Do you want to eat at once or later?" "I'm not fussed."* (=it doesn't matter to me)

**fuss over** sthg./sbdy. *phr v* [T] to pay too much attention to: *The old lady fusses over her little dog as if it were a sick child.*

**fuss-pot** /'fas-pɒt/ || -pɔ:t/ also **fuss-bud-get** /'fas,bʌdʒɪt/ – *n infml derog* someone who gets anxious about small matters or is too concerned about unimportant details: *Stop worrying, you old fusspot!*

**fuss-y** /'fasi/ *adj* **1** usu. derog (of a person) too concerned about details: *He's very fussy about his food; if it isn't cooked just right, he won't eat it.* | *a fussy eater* – compare FASTIDIOUS **2** derog (of dress, furniture, etc.) having too much detailed decoration: *a fussy hat* **3** usu. derog (esp. of a person's actions) nervous and excitable: *She patted her hair with small fussy movements of her hands.* **4** [F (about) usu. in questions and negatives] infml (of a person) concerned; caring: *"Would you like tea or coffee?" "I'm not fussy."* (=I would like either.) [+wh-] *Are you*



*fussy what time we have dinner?* --ily adv --iness n [U]

**fus·ti·an** /'fʌstɪən||-tʃən/ adj, n [A;U] **1** (made from) a type of rough heavy cotton material **2** rare (consisting of) empty, important-sounding words

**fus·ty** /'fʌsti/ adj derog **1** (of a room, box, clothes, etc.) having an unpleasant smell as a result of having been shut up for a long time, esp. when not quite dry **2** infml not modern; old-fashioned: *We want to clear away all these fusty ideas about education and bring in some up-to-date methods.* --tiness n [U]

**fu·tile** /'fju:tɪl||-tl/ adj **1** (of an action) having no effect; unsuccessful; useless: *All my attempts to unlock the door were futile, because I was using the wrong key.* | *Don't waste time by asking futile questions.* | *It's futile to complain.* **2** rare (of a person) lacking ability to succeed; INEFFECTUAL --tility /'fju:tɪlɪti/ n [U] : *the futility of war*

**fu·ton** /'fu:ton||-tɑ:n/ **1** a large bag filled with cotton, feathers, etc. for sleeping on, used in Japan, which can be rolled up and put away during the day --see picture at **LED** **2** a similar MATTRESS, on a wooden frame, used in other countries as a SOFA that can be used as a bed at night

**fu·ture** /'fju:tʃə/ n **1** [the] the time after the present; time that has not yet come: *It's a good idea to save some money for the future.* | *The old lady claims to be able to tell what will happen in the future.* | *At some time in the future, we may all work fewer hours a day.* | **In the distant future** (=much later) *people may live on the moon.* | *We're hoping to move to Scotland in the near future* (=soon) **in the not too distant future.** (=quite soon) **2** [C] that which will happen to someone or something in the future: *I wish you a very happy future.* | *The company's future is uncertain.* | *He has a great future ahead of him as an actor.* (=he is likely to become successful and famous) | *These unemployed young people have not got much of a future.* (=much chance of becoming successful) **3** [U (in) usu. in questions and negatives] infml likelihood of success: *There's no future in trying to sell fur coats in a hot country.* **4** [the] tech (in grammar) the form of a verb that shows that the act or state described will happen or exist at a later time: *In the sentence "I will leave tomorrow", the verb 'will' indicates the future.* **5** **in future** BrE || **in the future** AmE (used esp. in giving warnings) from now on: *In future, make sure you get here on time.* --compare PAST **6** **I have seen the future** quote a phrase used by Lincoln Steffens (1866–1936) and reused today in many ways: *"I have seen the future and it costs a packet."* | *"They have seen the future and it stinks."*

**future**<sup>2</sup> adj [A] **1** belonging to or happening in the time

after the present: *I'd like you to meet my future wife.* (=the woman I am going to marry) | *This brilliant young player may be a future member of the England team.* | *You couldn't have known about it, but for future reference* (=remember this for the next time), *his parents must be consulted first.* **2** tech (in grammar) being the form of a verb used to show a future act or state: *the future tense*

**future per·fect** /,fju:tʃə'fekt/ n [the] tech (in grammar) the form of a verb that shows that the action described by the verb will be complete before a particular time in the future, formed in English by **will have** or **shall have** and a past participle --future perfect adj

**fu·tures** /'fju:tʃəz||-ərz/ n [P] tech (agreements or contracts for) goods bought and sold in large quantities at the present price, but not produced or sent until a later time: *the futures market*

**futures market** /'fju:tʃəz'mɑ:kɪt/ see FORWARD MARKET

**fu·tur·is·m** /'fju:tʃə'rizəm/ n [U] (often cap.) a new style of painting, music, and literature in the early 20th century which claimed to express the violent active quality of life in the modern age of machines --ist n

**fu·tur·is·tic** /'fju:tʃə'rɪstɪk/ adj **1** dealing with the future esp. by imagining what may happen then: *She writes futuristic novels about voyages to distant galaxies.* **2** infml, often derog of strange modern appearance; having no connection with known forms of art: *futuristic furniture, made of steel tubes and plastic* --tically /kli/ adv

**fuzz**<sup>1</sup> /fʌz/ n **1** [U] infml a mass of soft thin hair, or hair-like substance: *Apricots are covered in fuzz.* **2** AmE for FLUFF<sup>1</sup> (2)

**fuzz**<sup>2</sup> v. [T] to make (something) fuzzy

**fuzz**<sup>3</sup> n [the+sing./pl. v] sl, becoming old-fash the police

**fuzz·y** /'fʌzi/ adj infml **1** (of hair) standing up in a light short mass **2** (of something seen or heard) not clear in shape or sound: *The television picture/sound is rather fuzzy tonight.* **3** (of cloth, clothing, etc.) having a raised soft hairy surface --ily adv --iness n [U]

**f·word** /'ef wɜ:d||-wɜ:rd/ n [the] euph for FUCK (used only when talking about the word "fuck", and not used instead of the word): *That child has terrible language — he uses the f-word without even thinking about it!*

**fwy** written abbrev. for: FREEWAY

**FX**<sup>1</sup> /,ef 'eks/ n [U] FOREIGN EXCHANGE

**FX**<sup>2</sup> n [U] SPECIAL EFFECTS

**FY** /,ef 'waɪ/ n [S] AmE abbrev. for: FISCAL YEAR: *We expect record profits in FY1993.*

**FYI** abbrev. for: for your information



# G

**G** /dʒi:/ **G's**, **g's** or **Gs**, **gs** the seventh letter of the English alphabet

**G**<sup>1</sup> a note in Western music; the musical **KEY**<sup>1</sup> (4) based on this note

**G**<sup>2</sup> *abbrev. for:* 1 *tech* a **GRAVITY** **b** the amount of force caused by **GRAVITY** on an object that is lying on the Earth, used as a measure: *The people in a space vehicle have to suffer the effects of several G when it leaves the ground.* 2 *AmE sl* 1000 dollars; **GRAND**<sup>2</sup> (2): *The thieves got away with 100G from the local bank.* —see also **G-STRING**

**G**<sup>3</sup> *n*, *adj* (in the US) (a film) that children of any age may be admitted to see in a cinema: *a G movie* —see also **U**<sup>3</sup>

**G7** /,dʒi: 'sevən/ *adj abbrev. for* **GROUP OF SEVEN**: *The first G7 summit was in the 1970s. | the G7 leaders*

**GA** *written abbrev for:* **GEORGIA**

**gab** /gæb/ *v -bb-* [**I** (**ON**, **about**)] *infml derog* to talk continuously and without thought; **CHATTER**: —see also **the gift of the gab** (**GIFT**)

**gab-ar-dine**, **-erdine** /'gæbədi:n, 'gæbə'di:n|| 'gæbərdi:n/ *n* 1 [**U**] a strong material which usu. does not allow water to go through and is often used for making coats 2 [**C**] an article of clothing made from gabardine, esp. a a raincoat **b** a long **CLOAK** worn by Jews in the Middle Ages

**gab-ble**<sup>1</sup> /'gæbəl/ *v* [**I** (**AWAY**, **ON**); **T** (**OUT**)] to say (words) in such a way, esp. so quickly, that they cannot be heard clearly: *The announcer gabbled (out) some incomprehensible message over the public address system. | What on earth are you gabbling about?* (=What are you trying to explain?)

**gabble**<sup>2</sup> *n* [(the) **S**] words or word-like sounds spoken so quickly that they cannot be heard clearly: *The gabble of excited children could be heard coming from the classroom.*

**gab-ble** /'geɪbəl/ *n* the three-cornered upper end of a wall where it meets the sloping part of the roof

**Gable**, **Clark** (1901–60) an American film actor. He is best known for his **ROLE** as Rhett Butler in *Gone with the Wind* but also appeared in many other Hollywood films, including *Mutiny on the Bounty* and *The Misfits*. —see colour picture on page 685

**gab-ble** /'geɪbəl/ *adj* having one or more gables

**Ga-bon** /gæ'bon||-'bəʊn/, **Republic of** a country in W central Africa, which used to be part of French Equatorial Africa; capital Libreville; population 1,233,000 (1989) — **Gabonese** /,gæbə'nɪz-/ *adj*, *n*

**Ga-bri-el** /'geɪbrɪəl/ *n* (in the Bible) the **ANGEL** who brought news from God to people on Earth. Gabriel was sent by God to tell Mary she would be the mother of Jesus. He is often shown blowing a horn.

**gad** /gæd/ *v -dd-*

**gad about** (sthg.) *phr v* [**I**; **T**] *infml, often derog* to travel round (a place) to enjoy oneself, esp. when one should be doing something else: *She spent a few months gadding about (Europe) before her exams.*

**gad-a-bout** /'gædəbaʊt/ *n infml, often derog* a person who goes out or travels frequently and to many places for amusement: *She's become quite a gadabout since she left home.*

**Gad-daf-i**, **Qaddafi** /gə'dæfi||-'dɑː-/ , **Colonel** (**Mo-a-mar al** /'məʊəməɹˈæl/) (1942– ) an officer in the army of Libya and Libya's president since 1977. He was formerly Libyan chairman of the Revolutionary Command Council.

**Gad-dis** /'gædɪs/ **William** (1922– ) an American writer of **NOVELS** including *Carpenter's Gothic*

**gad-fly** /'gædflaɪ/ *n* 1 a fly which bites cattle 2 *rare* someone who, usu. intentionally, annoys people, esp. by pointing out faults

**gad-get** /'gædʒɪt/ *n infml* a small machine or useful apparatus; **DEVICE**: *a clever little gadget for peeling potatoes* —see **MACHINE** (**USAGE**)

**gad-get-ry** /'gædʒɪtri/ *n* [**U**] *infml, often derog* gadgets: *Their kitchen is so full of gadgetry that you can hardly move.*

**Gae-lic** /'geɪlɪk, 'gælɪk/ *adj*, *n* [(the) **U**] (of or being) any of the Celtic languages, esp. that of Scotland, or those of Ireland and the Isle of Man. Gaelic is still spoken in some parts of Scotland and Ireland but by fewer and fewer people: *Does that family MacKenzie have the Gaelic?* (=speak Gaelic) —see also **ERSE**

**Gaelic cof-fee** /,ɪ.. 'ɔː/ *n* [**C**; **U**] **IRISH COFFEE**

**Gaelic foot-ball** /,ɪ.. 'ɔː/ *n* [**U**] a type of football that is played in Ireland and parts of the US, between teams of 15 players using a round ball and a low net between **RUGBY** posts

**gaff** /gæf/ *n* a stick with a hook at the end, used to pull big fish out of the water —see also **blow the gaff** (**BLOW**<sup>1</sup>)

**gaffe** /gæf/ *n* an unintentional social mistake; **FAUX PAS**: *From the way she looked at me when I asked how much money she earned I realized I'd committed an awful gaffe.*

**gaf-fer** /'gæfə/ *n* 1 someone in charge of the lighting in making a cinema film 2 *BrE infml* a man in charge, esp. in a factory; **BOSS**<sup>2</sup> 3 *dial* an old man

**gag**<sup>1</sup> /gæg/ *n* 1 something, such as a piece of cloth, put over or into someone's mouth to prevent them from talking or shouting 2 an official forbidding of speech or writing on a given subject: *The White House have issued a gag order on the latest developments.* 3 *infml* a joke or funny story: *That comedian always tells the same gags.*

**gag**<sup>2</sup> *v -gg-* 1 [**T**] to prevent (someone) from speaking by putting a gag into or over their mouth: *She was bound and gagged by the kidnappers. | (fig.) The newspapers have been gagged, so nobody knows what really happened.* 2 [**I** (**on**)] *esp. AmE* to be unable to swallow and seem about to bring up food from the stomach; **CHOKe**: *She gagged on a piece of hard bread.* 3 **gag me with a spoon!** *AmE humor interj* (said to express a strong feeling of dislike, and usu. used by older children): *"You should see what's for lunch in the school cafeteria — gag me with a spoon!"*

**ga-ga** /'gaːgaː/ *adj infml derog* 1 having or showing a weak mind, esp. in old age; **SENIle** 2 [**F** (**about**, **over**)] having a strong but probably not long-lasting feeling of love; **INFATUATED**: *She's gaga over him.*

**Ga-ga-rin** /gə'gɑːrɪn/, **Yu-ri** /'juəri/ (1934–68) a Soviet **ASTRONAUT**. On 12th April 1961 he became the first man in space when he travelled round the earth in **Vostok I**.

**gage** /geɪdʒ/ *n*, *v* *AmE for* **GAUGE**

**gag-gle** /'gæɡəl/ *n* [**S** (**of**)] 1 a number of geese (**GOOSE**) together 2 [**+sing.** **pl.** **v**] a group of noisy people who talk a lot: *A gaggle of schoolgirls followed the tennis star to his car.*

**gai-e-ty** /'geɪɪti/ *n* [**U**] 1 cheerfulness: *The gaiety of the music made everyone want to dance.* 2 also **gaieties pl.** —old-fash happy events and activities, esp. at a time of public holiday —compare **GAYNESS**; see also **GAY**<sup>1</sup>

**gai-ly** /'geɪli/ *adv* 1 in a cheerful manner: *gaily-coloured decorations* 2 in an insensitive, thoughtless way: *They gaily went on talking after the film had started.*

**gain**<sup>1</sup> /geɪn/ *v* 1 [**I** (**by**, **from**); **T**] *rather fml* to obtain (something useful, advantageous, wanted, profitable, etc.): *They stand to gain a fortune on the deal. | I hope you'll gain by the experience.* (=learn a useful lesson from it) | *We've got nothing to gain by delaying the meeting.* | *The revolutionaries are gaining thousands of supporters for their cause.* | *The thieves gained entry* (=got in) *through an upstairs window.* [**+obj** (**i**) **+obj** (**d**)] *He had gained himself a reputation for unfairness.* 2 [**T**] to have an increase in: *I think he's gaining weight.* | *The car gained speed as it went down the hill.* 3 [**I** (**on**, **upon**)] to reduce the distance between oneself and the person or thing one is chasing: *She was gaining on the leader throughout the final lap, and just overtook her before the finishing line.* | *"Drive faster! The police are gaining on us!"* 4 [**I**; **T**] (of a watch or clock) to work too fast by (an amount of time): *My watch is gaining five minutes a week.* —see **CLOCK**<sup>1</sup> (**USAGE**) 5 [**T**] *fml or lit* to reach (a place), esp. with effort or difficulty: *We cut a path through the forest and gained the river next day.* 6 **gain ground**: **a** to **GAIN** (2) **b** to become stronger, more popular, etc.: *The People's Party is gaining ground in the country.* | *The idea that*



*smoking is unhealthy has gained ground considerably in recent years.* —opposite **lose** (for 1, 2, 4) — ~ **er** *n*

▷ **USAGE** Compare **gain**, **win**, and **earn**. You can **gain** something useful or necessary whether or not you deserve it: *to gain attention/knowledge/favour*. You can **gain** or **win** something as a result of great effort or ability: *People disliked him at first, but in the end his willingness to work hard gained/won their approval*. You can **earn**: *a something which you deserve: Take a rest now. You've earned it!* **b** money for work you do: *He's earning £300 a week at present.* ◀

**gain**<sup>2</sup> *n* 1 [U] also **gains** *pl.* — (the act of making) a profit; (increase in) wealth: *He put a lot of money into the firm with the hope of gain in the future.* | *The thief escaped to Europe with his ill-gotten gains.* (=the money and property he had stolen) —see also **CAPITAL GAINS** 2 [C] an increase in amount: *Stocks this week have shown a significant gain over last week's prices.* —opposite **loss**

**gain-ful** /'geɪnfəl/ *adj* [no comp.] *fml* which provides money; for which one is paid: *gainful employment* — ~ **ly** *adv*

**gain-say** /,geɪn'seɪ/ *v* -**said** /'sed/ [T *usu. in negatives*] *fml* to say that something is not so; **DENY**: *There's no gainsaying her ability.*

**Gains-bo-rough** /'geɪnzbrəʊ||-bɜːrəʊ/, **Thomas** (1727–88) an English artist best known for his **PORTRAITS** and **LANDSCAPE** paintings. He was involved in the establishment of the Royal Academy in London.

**gait** /geɪt/ *n* a way of walking: *He had a strange rolling gait, like a sailor on a ship.*

**gai-ter** /'geɪtə/ *n* either of a pair of cloth or leather coverings worn, esp. formerly, to cover either the ankle or the leg from knee to ankle —see **PAIR** (**USAGE**)

**gal** /gæl/ *n* 1 *AmE infml* a girl or woman: *What are you gals doing this weekend?* 2 *BrE* (used to suggest an old-fashioned, UPPER-CLASS pronunciation) a girl

**ga-la** /'gælə||'geɪlə, 'gælə/ *n* 1 an occasion of planned enjoyment or special public entertainment: *This is a gala occasion; it calls for champagne.* | *It was a gala night at the opera; all the stars were going to perform, and the audience wore their finest clothes.* 2 esp. *BrE* a sports meeting, esp. a swimming competition: *She's competing in three races at the school's swimming gala.*

**Gal-a-had** /'gæləhæd/, **Sir** a man who behaves in a very polite way (from the story of the most **VIRTUOUS** of King Arthur's Knights of the Round Table who regained the Holy Grail): *I happened to be passing by and played a kind of Sir Galahad by helping to get her wheelchair out of the van.* —see also **ARTHURIAN LEGEND**

**Galáp-a-gos Is-lands** /gə'læpəgəs ,aɪləndz||gə'læpəgəʊs-/ [*the*] a group of islands in the Pacific Ocean, W of Ecuador. They were visited by Charles Darwin in 1835, who collected information which led him to his ideas about **EVOLUTION**. They are also famous for the **GIANT TORTOISES** living there.

**gal-ax-y** /'gæləksi/ *n* 1 any of the large groups of stars which make up the universe: *a spiral galaxy* 2 [(of)] a splendid gathering of people, esp. famous, beautiful, or clever people: *A galaxy of film stars attended the première.* —**actic** /gə'læktɪk/ *adj* [A]

**Galaxy**<sup>1</sup> *n* [*the*] the large group of stars in which our own sun and its **PLANETS** lie

**Galaxy**<sup>2</sup> *n* [C;U] *tdmk* a type of milk chocolate made by Mars Confectionary

**gale** /geɪl/ *n* 1 a very strong wind: *The old tree was blown down in a gale.* | *The weathermen forecast a Force Nine gale.* 2 [+of] also **gales** *pl.* — a sudden burst, esp. of laughter: *As the door opened, gales of laughter came from inside.* —see **WIND** (**USAGE**)

**Gal-i-lee** /'gælɪli/ an area in N Israel in which the main city is Nazareth. It is known as the area in which Jesus lived and worked.

**Galilee**, **Sea of** a lake in NE Israel through which the River Jordan flows and which is found in many New Testament Bible stories

**Gal-i-le-o** /,gælɪ'leɪəʊ/ (1564–1642) an Italian astronomer (**ASTRONOMY**), **MATHEMATICIAN**, and **PHYSICIST** who made several important scientific discoveries, and by building the first **TELESCOPE** discovered the four largest **SATELLITES** of Jupiter. In 1633 he was brought before the **INQUI-**

**SITION** in Rome and forced to **DENY** his claim that the sun was the centre of the universe.

**gall**<sup>1</sup> /gɔːl/ *n* [U] 1 daring rudeness or bad manners: *I don't know how you can have the gall to turn up here again after the way you've behaved in the past.* 2 old use for **BILE**

**gall**<sup>2</sup> *n* 1 a painful place on an animal's skin, esp. on that of a horse, usu. caused by something rubbing against the skin 2 a swelling on a tree or plant caused by an insect laying its eggs, infection, or damage

**gall**<sup>3</sup> *v* [T] to cause to feel annoyed disappointment or anger: *It galled him that his father left him no money when he died.* | *a galling experience*

**gal-lant**<sup>1</sup> /'gælənt/ *adj fml or lit* courageous: *a gallant soldier* | *It was a gallant deed to risk almost certain death to save his friend.* — ~ **ly** *adv*

**gal-lant**<sup>2</sup> /gə'lænt, 'gælənt||gə'lænt, gə'lænt/ *adj fml or lit* (of a man) attentive and polite to women — ~ **ly** *adv*: *He bowed gallantly and asked her for the next dance.*

**gal-lant**<sup>3</sup> /'gælənt, gə'lænt||gə'lænt, gə'lænt/ *n* old use a man, esp. a young man, who is particularly well dressed and/or politely attentive to women

**gal-lan-try** /'gæləntri/ *n* [C;U] *fml or lit* 1 (an act of) bravery, esp. in battle: *He was awarded a medal for gallantry.* 2 (an act of) polite unselfish attention paid by a man to a woman

**gall blad-der** /'gæl blædər/ *n* an organ of the body, like a small bag, in which **BILE** is stored

**gal-le-on** /'gæliən/ *n* a large sailing ship used in former times, esp. by the Spaniards —see picture at **SAIL**

**gal-le-ry** /'gæləri/ *n* 1 a room, hall, or building where works of art are shown and sometimes offered for sale: *It's in Gallery 15.* | *an art gallery* 2 a an upper floor built out from an inner wall of a hall, from which activities in the hall may be watched: *the public gallery in Congress* **b** the highest upper floor in a theatre —see picture at **THEATRE** 3 a long narrow room: *a shooting gallery* 4 a level underground passage in a mine or joining natural **CAVES** —see also **play to the gallery** (**PLAY**<sup>2</sup> (26))

**gal-ley** /'gæli/ *n* 1 (in former times) a long low ship with ~sails, which was rowed along by slaves, esp. an ancient Greek or Roman warship —see picture at **SAIL** 2 a ship's kitchen 3 also **galley proof** /'gælɪ pʁuːf/ — any of the sheets of paper on which a printer prints a book so that mistakes can be put right before it is divided into pages

**Gal-lic** /'gælɪk/ *adj* typical of France or the French: *He kissed her hand with Gallic charm.*

**Gal-lip-o-li** /gə'lɪpəli/ an area in Turkey where a battle by the Allies, including soldiers from Australia and New Zealand took place during the First World War. The battle ended unsuccessfully for the Allies: *the Gallipoli landings*

**gal-li-vant** /'gælɪvænt/ *v* [I (ABOUT)] *infml or humor, often derog* to go around amusing oneself; **GAD about**: *You can't spend the rest of your life gallivanting about; get yourself a steady job.*

**gal-lon** /'gælən/ *n* a measure for liquids —see **TABLE 2**

► **CULTURAL NOTE** In Britain the gallon was the measure commonly used for buying petrol until the late 1980s since when it has also been sold in litres. Gallons are still used in the US for petrol and some other liquids: *a gallon of milk* | *ten gallons of gas* ◀

**gal-lop**<sup>1</sup> /'gæləp/ *n* 1 [S] the movement of a horse at its fastest speed, when all four feet come off the ground together: *The horse went off at a gallop across the field.* | *The horses broke into a gallop.* (=began to gallop) 2 [C] a ride at this speed: *She took her pony out to the countryside for a good gallop.* 3 *at a gallop infml* in a rush or hurry: *She ate her lunch at a gallop.*

**gallop**<sup>2</sup> *v* [I;T] to (cause to) move at the speed of a gallop: *The horse/The rider galloped down the hill.* | (fig.) *He galloped through his work so that he could leave the office early.* —compare **CANTER**<sup>2</sup>, **TROT**<sup>2</sup> (1)

**gal-lop-ing** /'gæləpɪŋ/ *adj* [A] increasing or changing very quickly: *The country is suffering from galloping inflation; the value of its money has halved in the past six months.*

**gal-lows** /'gæləʊz/ *n* **gallows** the wooden frame on which criminals used to be killed by hanging from a rope: *The*



*murderer was sent to the gallows for his crimes.*

**gallows hu-mour** /'lɒ. ɪ. / *n* [U] *lit* humour which makes very unpleasant or dangerous things or people seem funny; BLACK HUMOUR

**gall-stone** /'gɔːlstəʊn/ *n* a hard stone or grain which forms in the GALL BLADDER and may have to be removed by an operation or other treatment

**Gal-lup poll** /'gæləp pəʊl/ *n* *tdmk* a special count of opinions in a country, done esp. in order to try to say what the result of a political election will be, by questioning a number of people chosen to represent the whole population. Gallup polls are named after the American STATISTICIAN, George Horace Gallup, who invented them, and are often printed in newspapers.

**ga-lore** /gə'lɔːr/ *adj* [after *n*] in large amounts or numbers: *There are bargains galore in the sales this year.*

**ga-losh** /gə'lɒʃ/ [gə'lɔːʃ] also *overshoe*, also *rubber* *AmE*—*n* [*usu. pl.*] a rubber shoe worn over an ordinary shoe, esp. by older people, when it rains or snows —see PAIR (USAGE)

**Gals-wor-thy** /'gɔːlzwɜːði/-wɜːr-/ , **John** (1867–1933) an English writer of books and plays who won the Nobel Prize for literature in 1932. He is best known for his books *The Forsyte Saga* about a rich MIDDLE-CLASS English family called the Forsytes.

**Gal-ti-e-ri** /,gælti'eəri/, **General Le-o-pol-do** /leɪə'pəʊldəʊ/ (1926– ) an Argentinian leader who ordered the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) to be seized in 1982, leading to the war with Britain. He was sent to prison in 1986.

**gal-lumph** /gə'lʌmf/ *v* [I+*adv/prep*] *infml* to move in a cheerful carefree way, but heavily and awkwardly: *The sea lion galumphed up to the zookeeper to take the fish.*

**gal-van-ic** /gæl'vænɪk/ *adj* 1 [*no comp.*] *tech* of or concerning the production of electricity by the action of an acid on a metal: *a galvanic cell* 2 *fml* (of actions and events) sudden, unnaturally strong, etc.: *The warning about the bomb had a galvanic effect, and people ran everywhere trying to find it.*

**gal-va-nis-m** /'gælvənɪzəm/ *n* [U] *tech* the production of electricity by chemical means, esp. as in a BATTERY

**gal-va-nize** also *-nise* *BrE* /'gælvənəɪz/ *v* [T] 1 to put a covering of metal, esp. ZINC, over (a sheet of another metal, esp. iron), by using electricity: *galvanized iron* 2 [(into)] to shock (someone) into sudden action: *The announcement of the general election galvanized the party members into activity.*

**Gal-way** /'gɔːlweɪ/ a COUNTY in the W of the Republic of Ireland, which contains the town of Galway

**Galway**<sup>2</sup>, **James** (1939– ) a Northern Irish FLUTE player who has played with ORCHESTRAS as well as making popular records and appearing on television

**Ga-ma** /'gɑːmə/, **Vas-co da** /'væskəʊ də// 'vɑːs-/ (?1469–1524) a Portuguese NAVIGATOR who was the first European to travel to India by sea and who opened up the SPICE trade which began the Portuguese EMPIRE

**Gam-bi-a** /'gæmbiə/ [*the*] a country in West Africa which became independent from Britain in 1965 and a republic in 1970; capital Banjul; population 835,000 (1989) —*bian n, adj*

**gam-bit** /'gæmbɪt/ *n* an action made to produce a future advantage, esp. an opening move in a game, an argument, or a conversation: *That was a clever gambit, to move your bishop out so early in the chess game.* | “Do you come here often?” *is a hackneyed conversational gambit.* | *It was a poor opening gambit to accuse him of stealing — you should have introduced the subject more gently.* —compare PLOY

**gam-ble** /'gæmbəl/ *v* 1 [I;T (on)] to risk (money, property, etc.) on the result of something uncertain, such as a card game, a horse race, a business arrangement, etc.: *to gamble at poker/on the stock exchange* | *He gambled away (=risked and lost) the fortune his grandmother left him.* | *The police regularly raid these gambling dens.* (=places where people go to play cards, etc., illegally) 2 [I (on, with);T+*that, obj*] to do something risky that depends for its success on certain things happening as one wishes: *They carried out the robbery on Christmas Day, gambling on no one being in the building.* | *He's gambling with his passengers' lives, driving as fast as that.* —*bler n*

**gamble**<sup>2</sup> *n* [S] a risky matter or act: *The operation may succeed, and it may not; it's a bit of a gamble.*

**gam-bol** /'gæmbəl/ *v* -ll- *BrE* || -l- *AmE* [I (ABOUT)] to jump about in play: *The lambs are gambolling (about) in the fields.* —**gambol n**

**game**<sup>1</sup> /geɪm/ *n* 1 [C] a form of play or sport, or one example or type of this: *Football is a game which doesn't interest me.* | *Let's have a game of cards.* | *The children were in the garden, playing a game of hide-and-seek.* | *Chess and draughts are board games.* 2 [C] a single part of a set into which a match is divided, e.g. in tennis, BRIDGE<sup>3</sup>, etc. 3 [U] wild animals, birds, and fish which are hunted or fished for food, esp. as a sport: *Pheasants and partridges are game birds.* | *A strong red wine goes well with game.* —see also BIG GAME 4 [C] *infml* a profession or activity, esp. one in which people compete against each other: *the advertising game* | *Can you help me plan the meeting — I'm new to this game.* 5 [C] *infml* a trick or secret plan: *What's your little game, then?* | *Don't play games with me — just tell me what you want.* | *I'll tell you what we're planning for Jane's birthday, as long as you promise not to give the game away.* (=tell Jane about it) 6 *make game of old-fash* to laugh at or make fun of 7 *on the game sl, esp. BrE* in the business of being a PROSTITUTE 8 *the game's 'up* your/our trick or plan has been found out and can succeed no further —see also GAMES, FAIR GAME, MUG'S GAME, WAR GAME, **the name of the game** (NAME<sup>1</sup>), **play the game** (PLAY<sup>2</sup> (24)), **two can play at that game** (TWO); see RECREATION (USAGE)

**game**<sup>2</sup> *adj* 1 brave, determined, and ready for action: *The little boy was hurt by the fall, but he was game enough to get up and try again.* 2 [F (for)] willing: “Who's game for a swim?” “I'm game!” [+to-v] *I'm game to try.* —*~ly adv*

**game**<sup>3</sup> *v* [I] *fml* to GAMBLE at cards and other games of chance: *She spends every evening at the gaming tables.*

**game**<sup>4</sup> *adj* [A] *old-fash* for GAMMY

**game-cock** /'geɪmkɒk/-kɔːk/ *n* a male chicken specially trained to fight others

**game-keep-er** /'geɪmki:pə/ *n* a man employed to raise and protect GAME<sup>1</sup> (3), esp. birds, on private land

**game park** /'lɒ. / also **game reserve**—*n* a large area of country which is set aside for wild animals to live in, esp. in Africa

**game-plan** /'geɪmplæn/ *n* a plan for gaining success by a number of steps, used esp. in business or sports; TACTICS: *The businessman eventually forced the board to agree to his gameplan.*

**game point** /'lɒ. / *n* [C;U] the situation in games such as tennis in which one player will win the game if he or she wins the next point —compare MATCH POINT

**game re-serve** /'lɒ. / *n* a GAME PARK

**games** /geɪmz/ *n* **games** 1 [P;U] *BrE* (the playing of) team games and other forms of physical exercise out of doors at school: *We have games on Wednesday afternoons.* 2 [*the+C+sing./pl. v*] (often *cap. in names*) a particular set of sports competitions: *The 1984 (Olympic) Games were/was held in Los Angeles.* | *the Commonwealth Games* —see also FUN AND GAMES

**game show** /'lɒ. / *n* a television programme in which competitors, usu. members of the public, play games for prizes. Game shows are usu. funny and noisy rather than serious or meaningful, and valuable prizes e.g. cars, or large amounts of money can be won.

**games-man-ship** /'geɪmzmənʃɪp/ *n* [U] *often derog* the art of winning by using the rules to one's own advantage without actually cheating

**gam-ey** /'geɪmi/ *adj* GAMY

**gam-ma** /'gæmə/ *n* the third letter (Γ, γ) of the Greek alphabet

**gamma glob-u-lin** /,gæmə 'glɒbjʊlɪn/-'glɑː-/ *n* [U] a natural substance found in the body, a form of ANTIBODY, which gives protection against certain diseases

**gamma ray** /'lɒ. / *n* [*usu. pl.*] a beam of light of short wave length, which goes through solid objects

**gam-mon** /'gæmən/ *n* [U] *esp. BrE* the meat, preserved by salt or smoke, from the back part and leg of a pig: *gammon steaks* —compare BACON, HAM (1)



**gam-my** /'gæmi/ also **game old-fash-** *adj infml, esp. BrE* (esp. of a human leg) damaged or painful, esp. in such a way that one cannot walk properly or comfortably; usu. in older people

**gam-ut** /'gæmʌt/ *n* [(the) S (of)] the complete range of a subject, including the smallest details and the most general ideas: *He's run the whole gamut of (=experienced all of) human experience.*

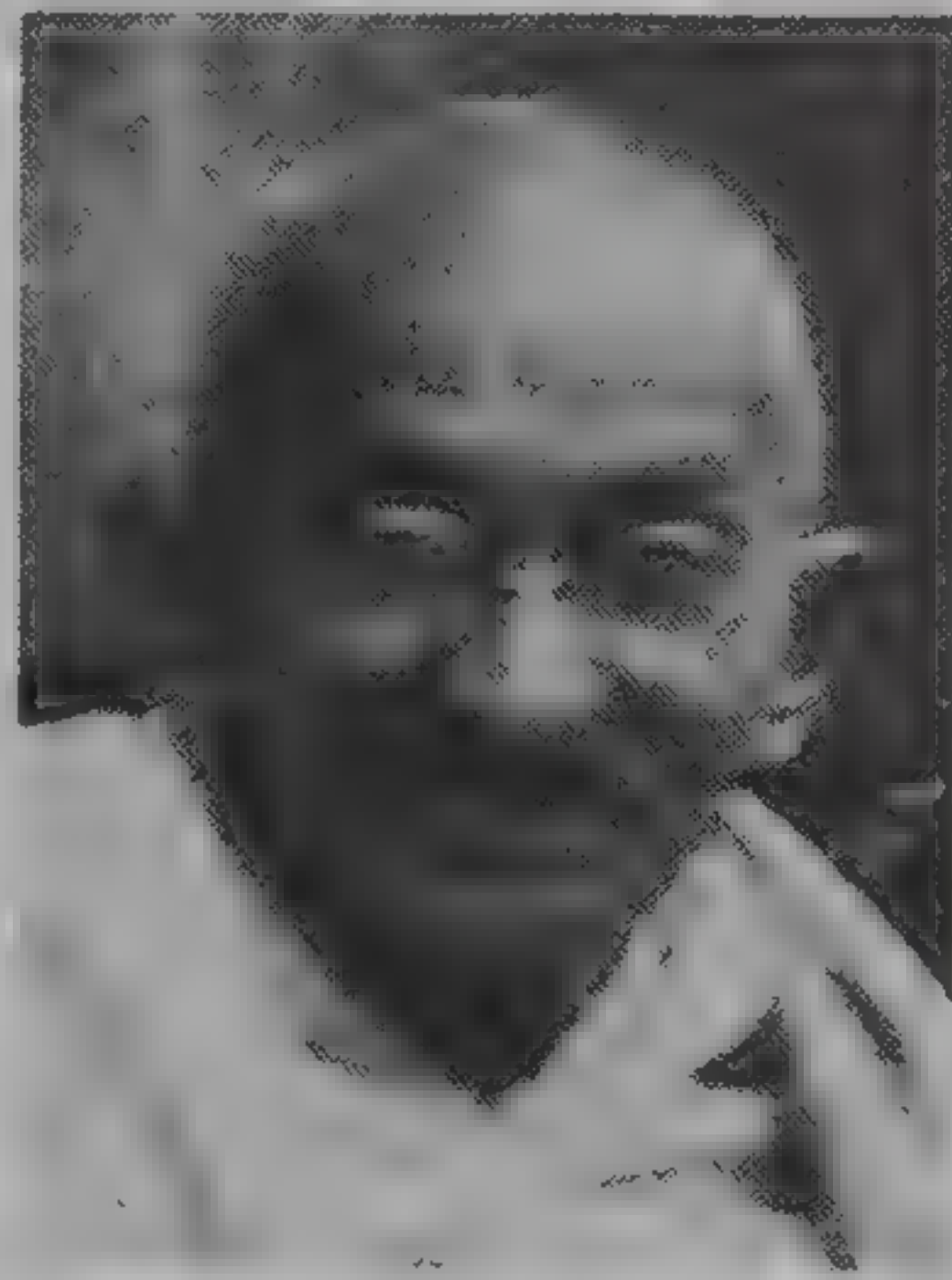
**gam-y**, **gamey** /'geɪmi/ *adj* (of meat) having the strong taste of **GAME**<sup>1</sup> (3) which has been hung up for some time before cooking —compare **HIGH**<sup>1</sup> (9) —**-iness** *n* [U]

**Gan-dalf** /'gændælf/ || 'gɑ:ndɑ:lf/ a **WIZARD** character in the book *The Lord of the Rings* by JRR Tolkien

**gan-der** /'gændə/ *n* 1 [C] a male **GOOSE** 2 [S (at)] *infml* a look: "Come and take a gander at this!" he said, with his eye to the keyhole.

**Gan-dhi**<sup>1</sup> /'gændi/, **In-di-ra** /'ɪndiərə/ (1917–84) the **PRIME MINISTER** of India 1966–77 and 1980–84 and the daughter of India's first **PRIME MINISTER**, Nehru. She was murdered by one of her Sikh bodyguards.

**Gandhi**<sup>2</sup>, **Mo-han-das Kar-am-chand** /məʊhən'dæs -kærəm'tʃænd/ (1869–1948) an Indian lawyer, social worker, Hindu leader and nationalist known as **Ma-hatma Gandhi** who believed in non-violent action in the nationalist movement for Indian independence. He was murdered soon after India gained independence.



Gandhi

**Gandhi**<sup>3</sup>, **Ra-jiv** /ræ'dʒi:v/ (1944–91) the son of Indira Gandhi who was elected **PRIME MINISTER** of India after his mother was killed in 1984 and remained in power until 1989. He was murdered in 1991 while campaigning (**CAMPAIGN**) in the Indian elections.

**G & T** /,dʒi:z ənd 'ti:z/ *n* [C;U] see **GIN AND TONIC**

**gang**<sup>1</sup> /gæŋ/ *n* [C+*sing./pl. v*] 1 a a group of criminals: *The gang was/were planning a robbery.* | *the leader of the James Gang* 2 a group of esp. young men who cause trouble and/or fill other people with fear: *They were attacked by a gang of skinheads.* | *a gang fight* 2 a group of friends, esp. **TEENAGERS**: *Have you seen any of the/our gang lately?* 3 a group of people working together, such as prisoners or building workers —see also **CHAIN GANG**

**gang**<sup>2</sup> *v*

**gang up** *phr v* [I (on, against)] *derog* to work together as a close group (against someone); **CONSPIRE**: *She feels that everyone's ganging up on her.*

**gang-bang** /'gæŋbæŋ/ *n sl* an occasion on which several different men have sex with the same woman, esp. against her wishes —**gang-bang** *v* [I;T]

**gang-er** /'gæŋə/ *n BrE* the **FOREMAN** (=leader) of a group of workers, esp. building workers

**Gan-ges** /'gændʒi:z/ [the] a river in N India which provides water for the fields in India and Bangladesh. It is considered to be **SACRED** by Hindus.

**gang-land** /'gæŋlənd, -lənd/ *n* [U] the world of professional and esp. violent crime: *A group of gangland bosses met to decide who would control which territory.* | *gangland killings*

**gang-ling** /'gæŋglɪŋ/ *adj* (esp. of a boy) unusually tall and thin, so as to appear awkward in movement

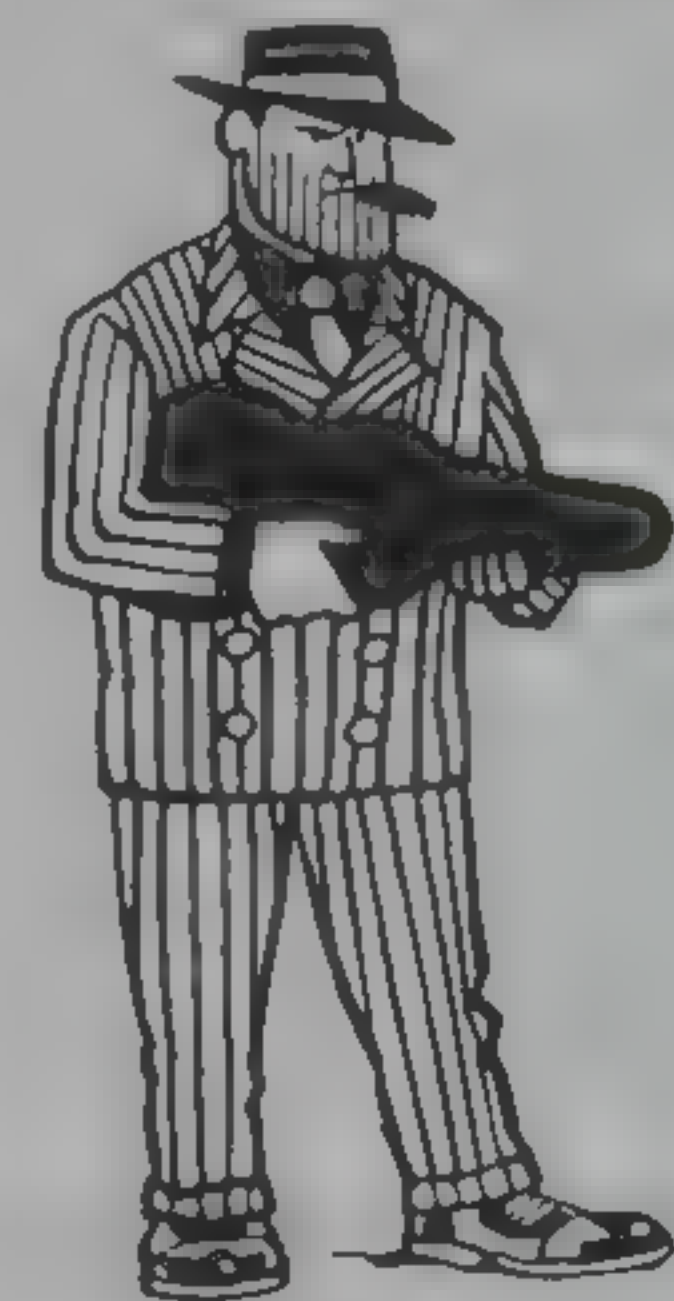
**gan-gli-on** /'gæŋgliən/ *n med* 1 a mass of nerve cells 2 a (painful) swelling containing liquid, often on the back of the wrist

**Gang of Four** /,gæŋgə/ [the] 1 a group of four strong supporters of Mao Tse-tung important in the Cultural Revolution in China, who were seized in 1976 and given long prison sentences 2 four former British ministers who left the Labour Party in 1981 to start the Social Democratic Party

**gang-plank** /'gæŋplæŋk/ *n* a wooden board which is used to make a bridge to get into or out of a ship or to pass from one ship to another

**gan-grene** /'gæŋɡri:n/ *n* [U] the decay of the flesh of part of the body because blood has stopped flowing there, usu. after a wound —**-grenous** /ɡrɪnəs/ *adj*

**gang-ster** /'gæŋstə/ *n* a member of a group (**GANG**) of usu. armed criminals. In Britain, the image many people have of a gangster is of a man in a very **SMART** suit who carries a big gun hidden in a case meant for holding a **VIOLIN**. Most people associate the word with Al Capone and the Chicago gangsters of the 1920s and 1930s.



gangster

**gang-way** /'gæŋweɪ/ *n* 1 a usu. large **GANGPLANK** 2 a clear space between two rows of seats in a cinema, theatre, bus, or train; **aisle** 3 **Gangway!** (used to clear a passage through a crowd of people) Please get out of the way!

**gan-net** /'gæŋɪt/ *n* **gannets** or **gannet** 1 a large bird that lives near the sea and catches fish by diving (**DIVE**) into the sea 2 *sl* someone who eats a lot and who eats any type of food

**gan-try** /'gæŋtri/ *n* a metal frame which is used to support movable heavy machinery or railway signals

**Gan-y-mede** /'gæŋɪmɪd/ in old Greek stories, a beautiful young boy who was taken to Olympus by Zeus to be a servant to the gods

**gaol** /dʒeɪl/ *n, v BrE* for **JAIL**

**gaol-bird** /'dʒeɪlbɜ:d/ || -bɜ:rd/ *n BrE* for **JAILBIRD**

**gaol-er** /'dʒeɪlə/ *n BrE* for **JAILER**

**gap** /ɡæp/ *n* [(in, between)] 1 an empty space between two objects or two parts of an object: *The gate was locked but we went through a gap in the fence.* | (fig.) *There are wide gaps in my knowledge of history.* | (fig.) *a gap in the conversation* | (fig.) *bridging the gap between school and university* —see also **CREDIBILITY GAP**, **GENERATION GAP** 2 **gap in the market** an area, usu. in the buying and selling of goods and services, which is not fully developed, and therefore offers someone a chance to start a suitable business and make money out of it: *She just saw the gap in the market, borrowed money from the bank and set up the business. Just like that!*

**gape** /geɪp/ *v* [I] 1 [(at)] to look hard in surprise or wonder, esp. with the mouth open: "What are you gaping at?" "This letter says I've just won half a million pounds!" —compare **GAWP** 2 to come apart or open widely: *Holes gaped in the road.* | *His shirt gaped open where the button had come off.* | *a gaping wound* | (fig.) *There were gaping holes in (=large parts left out of) his account of the incident, so we thought he must be trying to hide something.* —see **GAZE (USAGE)**

**gar-age**<sup>1</sup> /'gærɑ:ʒ, -ɪdʒ/ || 'gɑ:rɑ:ʒ/ *n* 1 a building in which motor vehicles can be kept: *She put the car away in the garage.* | *a bus garage* —compare **CARPORT**, see picture at **HOUSE** 2 also **service station**— a place where motor vehicles are repaired and petrol and oil may also be sold: *The car's at the garage.* —compare **FILLING STATION**

**garage**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T] to put or keep in a garage

**garage sale** /'gærɑ:ʒ seɪl/ || 'gɑ:rɑ:ʒ seɪl/ *n* a sale of used articles from people's houses, often taking place in a garage

**ga-ram ma-sa-la** /,gɑ:rəm mə'sɑ:lə, mə:z/ *n* [U] a mixture of **SPICES** which give a hot taste to food, used esp. in Indian cooking

**garb**<sup>1</sup> /gɑ:b/ || 'gɑ:rb/ *n* [U] *fml or lit* clothing of a particular style, esp. clothing which shows one's type of work or is of unusual appearance: *He was clothed in a judge's solemn garb.*

**garb**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T (in) *usu. pass.*] *fml or lit* to dress: *The priest was garbed in black.*

**gar-bage** /'gɑ:bɪdʒ/ || 'gɑ:r-/ *n* [U] 1 *esp. AmE* || **rubbish** *esp. BrE*— waste material, e.g. from a house or office, to be thrown away; **REFUSE**<sup>2</sup> 2 *derog* stupid and worthless ideas, words, etc.: *Don't talk such a load of garbage!* 3 **garbage in, garbage out** (used esp. in computing (**COMPUTE**)) if you put **RUBBISH**, e.g. bad **DATA**, into a machine, you will get bad results



## gardening equipment



**garbage can** /'..../ *n* AmE for DUSTBIN —see picture at HOUSE

**garbage col-lec-tor** /'..../ also **garbage man** /'..../ — *n* AmE for DUSTMAN

**garbage dis-pos-al** /'..../ also **disposal** *infml* — *n* AmE a small machine in the kitchen SINK which breaks vegetable rubbish into small pieces so that it can be allowed to go down the pipes that carry waste water away: *Can apple skins be put in the garbage disposal?* | *Will these go down the disposal?*

**garbage truck** /'..../ *n* AmE for DUSTCART

**gar-ban-zo** /gɑ:'bænzəʊ||gɑ:r'ba:z-/ *n* Sp CHICK PEA

**gar-ble** /'gɑ:bəl||'gɑ:r-/ *v* [T] to repeat in a confused way which gives a false idea of the facts: *He was overexcited, and gave a garbled account of the meeting.*

**Gar-bo** /'gɑ:bəʊ||'gɑ:r-/ , **Gret-a** /'gretə/ (1905–90) an American film actress, born in Sweden, whose films include *Queen Christina*, *Anna Karenina*, and *Camille*. Greta Garbo was known for her beauty, for saying “I want to be alone” and, towards the end of her life, for becoming a RECLUSE in her New York home. —see picture on page 228

**gar-bol-o-gy** /gɑ:'bɒlədʒi||gɑ:r'ba:z-/ *n* [U] AmE the study of waste or GARBAGE, e.g. for scientific purposes

**Gar-cí-a Lor-ca** /gɑ:,si:ə 'lɔ:kə||gɑ:r,si:ə 'lɔ:r-/ , **Fed-e-ri-co** /,fedə'ri:kəʊ/ (1898–1936) a Spanish poet and writer of plays, known for plays such as *Blood Wedding* and *The House of Bernarda Alba*. He was shot during the Spanish Civil War.

**Gar-cí-a Már-quez** /gɑ:,si:ə 'mɑ:kes||gɑ:r,si:ə 'mɑ:r-/ , **Gabriel** (1928– ) a Colombian writer who won the Nobel Prize for literature in 1982 and whose books include *One Hundred Years of Solitude* and *Love in the Time of Cholera*

**gar-çon** /'gɑ:sɒn||gɑ:r'səʊn/ *n* Fr a waiter, esp. in a French restaurant

**gar-den**¹ /'gɑ:dn||'gɑ:r-/ *n* 1 a piece of land, often around or at the side of a house, which may be covered with grass or planted with flowers, fruit, and vegetables: *She's out in the garden, mowing the lawn.* | *the back/front garden* | *a herb garden* | *a rose garden* | *a garden seat* —see picture at HOUSE; compare YARD² 2 (in the US) that part of a YARD which is planted with flowers or vegetables: *We have a little garden in our backyard.* | *We were thinking of planting a garden this year, but it's so much work digging up the yard.* 3 also **gardens pl.** — a public park with flowers, grass, paths, and seats —see also KITCHEN GARDEN, MARKET GARDEN, **lead someone up the garden path** (LEAD¹) 4 **Come into the garden, Maud** the title and first line of a song popular in Britain at the beginning of this century

**garden**² *v* [I] to work in a garden, keeping it tidy, making

plants grow, etc. — ~ **er** *n* — ~ **ing** *n* [U]: *Many retired people take up gardening as a hobby.* | *gardening gloves* | *It was a sunny day so I decided to do some gardening.*

**garden cen-tre** /'..../ BrE || **nursery** AmE — *n* a place where equipment and tools for gardening, and plants and flowers are sold

**garden cit-y** /,..../ *n* esp. BrE a town or part of a town (a **garden suburb**), planned and built to have grass, trees, and open spaces, rather than factories and signs of industry —compare NEW TOWN

**garden flat** /'..../ BrE || **garden a-part-ment** /'..../ AmE — *n* a flat in a BASEMENT or on the ground floor which has a garden

**gar-de-ni-a** /gɑ:'di:niə||gɑ:r-/ *n* a tropical bush with large white or yellow sweet-smelling flowers

**Garden of E-den** /,..../ [the] see EDEN

**Garden of En-land** /,..../ [the] the popular name for the COUNTY of Kent, because of its AGRICULTURAL produce, esp. ORCHARDS

**garden par-ty** /'..../ also **lawn party** AmE — *n* a formal party held out of doors on the grass, esp. in a large garden

► **CULTURAL NOTE** Every year, the Queen holds several garden parties, usu. at Buckingham Palace, to which guests are invited in recognition of their work or achievements, and it is considered a great honour to go to one. ◀

**garden-va-ri-e-ty** /'..../ *adj* AmE sometimes *derog* ordinary; not unusual: *She's a stripper and her husband's a garden-variety criminal.* | *garden-variety complaints about public transportation*

**garden wed-ding** /'..../ *n* AmE a wedding which takes place in a garden

**Gard-ner** /'gɑ:dnəʳ||'gɑ:r-/ , **Erle Stan-ley** /ɜ:l 'stænli||ɜ:rl-/ (1889–1970) an American writer of crime FICTION who invented the character of Perry Mason, the DETECTIVE (2)

**Gar-field**¹ /'gɑ:fi:ld||'gɑ:r-/ *n* a CARTOON cat character invented by Jim Davis which appears daily in hundreds of American newspapers, and in some British newspapers. Garfield is very popular in both the US and Britain and there are many Garfield books and toys on sale, esp. a toy cat which people stick on their car windows.

**Garfield**², **James** (1831–81) president of the US in 1881, who was killed while in office

**Gar-fun-kel** /gɑ:'fʌŋkəl||gɑ:r-/ , **Art** (1941– ) an American popular music singer and actor, best known as half of the very successful singing pair, Simon and Garfunkel —see also SIMON AND GARFUNKEL

**gar-gan-tu-an** /gɑ:'gæntʃuən||gɑ:r-/ *adj* extremely large; GIGANTIC: *a gargantuan meal* | *He had a gargantuan appetite.*

**gar-gle**¹ /'gɑ:gəl||'gɑ:r-/ *v* [I (with)] to wash the throat or



mouth by blowing air from the LUNGS through liquid held in the throat or mouth; people may do this with medicine if they have a sore throat, or with a preparation to make the breath smell fresh

**gargle**<sup>2</sup> *n* 1 [S] an act of gargling: *Have a good gargle.* 2 [C;U] (a) liquid with which one gargles

**gar-goyle** /'gɑ:gɔɪl||'gɑ:r-/ *n* an often ugly stone figure of a person or animal on a roof or wall, esp. of a church, through whose mouth rainwater is carried away —see picture at CHURCH

**Gar-i-bal-di** /,gærɪ'bo:ldi-/ , **Giu-sep-pe** /dʒu'sepi/ (1807–82) an Italian nationalist (born in France) who led 1,000 soldiers to take over Sicily and Naples and reunite Italy in 1860. He was elected to the Italian parliament in 1874.

**Garibaldi bis-cuit** /,.... 'bi-/ *n* BrE a type of flat square BISCUIT containing CURRANTS

**gar-ish** /'geərɪʃ/ *adj* unpleasantly bright: *garish colours* | *a garish jacket* — *~ly adv* — *~ness n* [U]

**gar-land**<sup>1</sup> /'gɑ:lənd||'gɑ:r-/ *n* a circle of flowers, leaves, or both, esp. one that is worn round the neck for decoration or as a sign of victory —compare WREATH

**garland**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T (with)] to put one or more garlands on: *They garlanded him with flowers.*

**Garland, Judy** (1922–69) an American film actress and singer who was most famous as the character of Dorothy in the film of *The Wizard of Oz* —see colour picture on page 685

**gar-lic** /'gɑ:lɪk||'gɑ:r-/ *n* [U] a plant rather like an onion, which is used in cooking to give a strong taste: *a clove of garlic* | *a garlic press* — *~ky adj*: *his garlicky breath*

**gar-ment** /'gɑ:mənt||'gɑ:r-/ *n fml or tech* an article of clothing

**gar-ner** /'gɑ:nəʳ||'gɑ:r-/ *v* [T] *lit* to collect or store

**gar-net** /'gɑ:nɪt||'gɑ:r-/ *n* 1 [C] a red jewel 2 [U] a deep red colour

**Gar-nett** /'gɑ:nɪt||'gɑ:r-/ , **Alf** /ælf/ a character in the BBC television COMEDY programme *Till Death Us Do Part* played by the actor Warren Mitchell. Alf Garnett is a British WORKING-CLASS man with very RIGHT-WING political opinions. He is very PATRIOTIC and believes strongly in the British Queen and royal family. He also believes that foreign people, esp. black people, should not be allowed to live in Britain. His name is now often used when talking about people with similar opinions: *He's your average Sun reader — a real Alf Garnett type.* | *policies aimed at attracting the Alf Garnett vote*

**gar-nish**<sup>1</sup> /'gɑ:nɪʃ||'gɑ:r-/ *n* anything that is used to improve the appearance or taste of food, such as small pieces of fruit or vegetable

**garnish**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T (with)] to add a garnish to (food): *The chicken was garnished with watercress and tiny new potatoes.* —see DECORATE (USAGE)

**garnish**<sup>3</sup> also **gar-nish-ee** /,gɑ:nɪ'ʃi:z||,gɑ:r-/ *v* [T] AmE to take money from (a person's wages) by a court order because he has failed to pay a debt: *They're garnishing my wages to pay my wife alimony.*

**gar-ret** /'gærɪt/ *n esp. lit* a small usu. unpleasant room at the top of a building. People often think of poor writers and artists living in garrets, as these rooms were often cheap to rent. —compare ATTIC

**Gar-rick Club** /'gærɪk ,klʌb/ [the] (in Britain) a gentleman's CLUB<sup>1</sup> (3) in West London which has a strong association with the theatre

**gar-ri-son**<sup>1</sup> /'gærɪsən/ *n* 1 [+sing./pl. v] a group of soldiers living in a town or fort and defending it: *The garrison was/were called out when news of the enemy's advance was received.* 2 a fort or camp where such soldiers live: *In the old days this used to be a garrison town.*

**garrison**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T] to (send a group of soldiers to) guard (a place): *The government will garrison the coastal towns.* | *Our regiment will garrison the town next month.*

**gar-rotte** /gə'rɒt||gə'rɔ:t/ *n* a metal collar or wire which may be tightened round the neck to prevent someone from breathing and so kill them —**garrotte** *v* [T]

**gar-ru-lous** /'gærələs/ *adj fml* habitually talking too much — *~ly adv* — *~ness n* [U]

**gar-ter** /'gɑ:təʳ||'gɑ:r-/ *n* 1 a band of elastic material worn round the leg to keep a sock or STOCKING up. It is a cus-

tom in Britain for BRIDES (=women getting married) to wear a garter on one leg. 2 AmE for SUSPENDER

**Garter, Order of the** [the] the highest order of British KNIGHTHOOD. The sign of the Order of the Garter is a blue VELVET garter.

**garter snake** /'.. ,-/ *n* a small, non-poisonous North American snake with stripes down the length of its back

**gas**<sup>1</sup> /gæs/ *n* gases or gasses 1 [C;U] (a type of) substance like air, which is not solid or liquid and usually cannot be seen: *Oxygen and nitrogen are gases.* | *a gas cylinder*

2 [U] a substance of this type, esp. NATURAL GAS, which is burnt in the home for heating and cooking and formerly also for light: *a gas cooker* | *fire* | *He turned on/lit the gas.* | *A gas main exploded.* 3 [U] a substance of this type which is used to poison or cause extreme discomfort: *The police used tear gas to control the riot.* 4 [U] AmE infml petrol: *We're out of gas.* | *a gas tank* 5 [U] AmE for WIND<sup>1</sup> (3) 6 [S] infml, esp. AmE something funny, entertaining, or enjoyable: *Woody Allen's latest film's a real gas!*

7 [U] infml derog, esp. BrE unimportant talk: *Don't pay any attention; it's all gas!* —see also LAUGHING GAS

**gas**<sup>2</sup> *v -ss-* 1 [T] to poison or kill (someone) with gas 2 [I] infml, esp BrE to talk for a long time about unimportant things; CHAT: *Well, I can't sit here gassing all day; I must get on with some work.*

**gas-bag** /'gæsbæg/ also **windbag**— *n infml* a person who talks too much

**gas cham-ber** /'.. ,-/ *n* a room in which people or animals are killed with poison gas. The Nazis used gas chambers to kill thousands of Jews in the Second World War. They are used today in some American states which allow CAPITAL PUNISHMENT.

**Gas-coigne**<sup>1</sup> /'gæskɔɪn/, **Bam-ber** /'bæmbəʳ/ (1935– ) a British writer who introduces television programmes; known esp. as the question master in the television programme *University Challenge*

**Gascoigne**<sup>2</sup>, **Paul** (1967– ) a very popular English footballer, also known as **Gazza**. He is generally considered to be a very good player, and he also became very famous in Britain after crying while playing in England's SEMI-FINAL match in the 1990 World Cup.

**gas-e-ous** /'gæsiəs/ *adj esp. tech* of or like gas

**gas-fired** /,.. 'fɪəd/ *adj esp. BrE* using NATURAL GAS or PROPANE: *gas-fired central heating*

**gas fit-ter** /'.. ,-/ BrE || **pipe fitter** AmE— *n* a person whose job is to supply or repair the pipes for gas in the home and the apparatuses worked by it, such as heaters, etc.

**gas guz-zler** /'.. ,-/ *n AmE* a large car or other motor vehicle that uses a lot of petrol —**ling adj**

**gash** /gæʃ/ *v* [T] to wound with a large deep cut: *He gashed his foot on a piece of broken glass.* —**gash n**: *a nasty gash in her arm*

**gas-hold-er** /'gæshəʊldəʳ/ also **gasometer**— *n* a very large round metal container from which gas is carried in pipes to houses and buildings

**gas-ket** /'gæskɪt/ *n* a flat piece of soft material which is placed between two surfaces so that steam, oil, gas, etc., cannot escape: *That car has blown a (head) gasket.* (=steam is escaping from the engine) | (fig.) *She really blew a gasket* (=became very angry) *when I asked for more money.*

**gas-light** /'gæslait/ *n* 1 [U] the light produced from burning gas 2 [C] also **gas-lamp** /-læmp/— a lamp in the house or on the street which gives light from burning gas

**gas-man** /'gæsmæn/ *n -men* /men/ a man who works in the gas industry, esp. an official who visits one's home to see how much gas one has used in order to calculate payment

**gas mask** /'.. ,-/ *n* a breathing apparatus worn over the face to protect the wearer against poisonous gases

**gas me-ter** /'.. ,-/ *n* a piece of equipment that measures how much gas is used in a building, esp. in a house, in order to calculate how much money is owed: *I've come to read the (gas) meter.*

**gas-o-hol** /'gæsəhɒl||-hɔ:l/ *n* [U] esp. AmE petrol with a small amount of alcohol in it. It can be used in cars and is cheaper than petrol.

**gas-o-line** , **-lene** /'gæselɪn/ also **gas infml**— *n* [U] AmE petrol

**gas-om-e-ter** /gæ'sɒmɪtəʳ||-'sɑ:/ *n* a GASHOLDER



**gasp**<sup>1</sup> /gɑːsp||gæsp/ *v* 1 [I (at, with, in)] to take in one's breath suddenly and in a way that can be heard, esp. because of surprise, shock, etc.: *The circus audience gasped with/in amazement as she put her head in the lion's mouth.* 2 [I] to breathe quickly, esp. with difficulty, making a noise: *I came out of the water gasping for breath.* 3 [T (OUT)] to say while breathing in this way: *He gasped out the message.*

**gasp**<sup>2</sup> *n* 1 an act of gasping: *She gave a gasp of surprise.* 2 at the last gasp at the last possible moment

**gas ped-al** /'gæspɪd-əl/ *n* AmE for ACCELERATOR —see picture at CAR

**gas per-me-a-ble lens** /'gæspɪməbəl lens/ *n* a kind of CONTACT LENS available from the 1980s that allows oxygen to reach the eye of the wearer

**gasp-ing** /'gæspɪŋ/ || 'gæ- / *adj* [F] BrE *infml* very thirsty

**gas ring** /'gæsrɪŋ/ || BrE || **burner** AmE— *n* a metal ring on the top of a cooker through which gas passes to feed a flame over which food can be cooked —see picture at RING

**gas sta-tion** /'gæstəʃən/ || 'gæ- / *n* AmE for FILLING STATION

**gas-sy** /'gæsi/ *adj* full of (a) gas: *I don't like this gassy beer.* —siness *n* [U]

**gas-tric** /'gæstriːk/ *adj* [A] *tech* of the stomach: *The gastric juices are acids which break down food in the stomach.* | a gastric ulcer | gastric flu

**gas-tri-tis** /gæ'straɪtɪs/ *n* [U] an illness in which the inside of the stomach is swollen, so that a burning pain is felt

**gas-tro-en-te-ri-tis** /'gæstrəʊ-entə'raɪtɪs/ *n* [U] an illness in which the food passages, including the stomach and INTESTINES, are swollen

**gas-tro-nome** /'gæstrənəʊm/ *n* sometimes *humor* a person who is skilled in gastronomy or enjoys good food

**gas-tron-o-my** /gæ'strɒnəmi||gæ'straː-/ *n* [U] the art and science of cooking and eating good food —mic /'gæstrə-nəmɪk-||-'naː-/ *adj* —mically /kli/ *adv*

**gas tur-bine** /'gæstərbɪn/ || 'gæ- / *n* an INTERNAL-COMBUSTION ENGINE in which a wheel of special blades is driven round at high speed by hot gases

**gas-works** /'gæswɜːks||-'zɜː-/ *n* **gasworks** [C+*sing./pl. v*] a place where gas for use in the home is made from coal

**gate** /geɪt/ *n* 1 a movable frame, often with bars across it, which closes an opening in a fence, wall, etc., and provides a way of entering or leaving a usu. outdoor place: *Someone left the gate open and the cows wandered out of their field.* | park gates —compare DOOR, and see picture at HOUSE 2 an entrance or way out, esp. in an airport: *Our flight is boarding at gate number 12.* —see also PEARLY GATES 3 BrE a the number of people who go in to see a sports event, esp. a football match: *Gates are down on last season.* (=fewer people are going to matches) b also **gate mon-ey** /'gætməni/ || 'gæ- / —the money paid by these people 4 (*in comb.*) a political SCANDAL in connection with the stated place (from the Watergate affair in 1972): *Irangate*

**GATE** /geɪt/ Guaranteed Accommodation and Training for Employment; a British organization set up in 1991 to help the homeless

**gâ-teau** /'gætəʊ||gæː'təʊ/ *n* -**teaux** /təʊz/ BrE [C;U] any of various kinds of large sweet cakes often filled and decorated with cream, fruit, nuts, etc.

**gate-crash** /'geɪtkræʃ/ || also **crash** *infml*— *v* [I;T] to go to (a party) without having been invited —er *n*

**gate-house** /'geɪthaus/ || **n<sup>e</sup>-houses** /'haʊzɪz/ a building that surrounds the gate of a castle or city wall, or that stands beside the gate to a park or the land surrounding a big house

**gate-keep-er** /'geɪt,ki:pə/ *n* a person who is in charge of the opening and closing of a gate

**gate-legged ta-ble** /'gætlɛgd-əbəl/ || also **gate-leg table** *n* a table which has a leg on a HINGE that can swing in to let down part of the table

**gate-post** /'geɪtpəʊst/ *n* a post beside a gate, from which the gate is hung or to which it fastens —see also **between you, me, and the gatepost** (BETWEEN<sup>1</sup>); see picture at HOUSE

**gate-way** /'geɪt-weɪ/ *n* 1 [C] an opening in a fence, wall, etc., across which a gate may be put 2 [*the (to)*] a way

of reaching or gaining (esp. something desirable): *Hard work is the gateway to success.*

**Gateway** one of a group of British SUPERMARKETS selling mainly food, but also other things

**gath-er**<sup>1</sup> /'gæðə/ *v* 1 [T (IN, UP)] *esp. lit* to collect (flowers, crops, several objects, etc.), esp. by moving from one place to another: *Gather your toys up.* | *The farmers are gathering in the corn.* 2 [T] to gain or obtain (information, qualities, etc.) by a process of gradual increase: *He travels about the world gathering facts about little-known diseases.* | *As we came onto the slope we gathered speed.* | *I hate to see such good equipment gathering dust.* (=not being used) 3 [T (from)] to understand from something said or done: *I didn't gather much from the confused story he told me.* [+*(that)*] *I gather she's been ill, so she may not be able to come.* 4 [I (ROUND)] to come together: *Gather round, and I'll tell you a story.* | *A crowd gathered to see what had happened.* 5 [T] to pull (a material or piece of clothing) a around or close to something: *He gathered his cloak around him.* b into small folds, usu. by making small stitches with a long thread, then pulling the thread so that the folds are pushed together: *a skirt gathered at the waist* 6 **gather ye rosebuds while ye may** *quote* a phrase from a poem by Robert Herrick, telling young girls to enjoy their beauty while it lasts because it will not last for ever

▷ USAGE Compare **gather**, **collect**, **accumulate**, and **amass**. You can **gather** things which are irregularly distributed, or not clearly separated from one another: *to gather flowers/crops/information.* **Collect** is like **gather**, but suggests that the things you are gathering are separate, or can be dealt with one at a time: *Collect the books and put them on the shelf.* | *I'm collecting signatures for a petition.* It is used esp. when you want to keep things together to form a collection: *She collects stamps/coins.* If you **accumulate** things you collect more and more of them over a period of time (often without having a strong intention to do this): *I've accumulated quite a lot of rare books over the years.* **Amass** is rather formal, and is used esp. of money, goods, or power collected gradually, but in very large amounts: *George Blake has amassed a fortune through his business dealings.* ◁

**gather**<sup>2</sup> *n* a small fold produced by gathering (GATHER<sup>1</sup> (5))

**gath-er-ing** /'gæðərɪŋ/ *n* 1 a meeting: *a small social gathering* 2 a gather or group of gathers in material

**Ga-to-rade** /'geɪtəreɪd/ *n* [U] *tdmk* a drink sold in the US which is supposed to replace chemicals in the body which are lost when one plays sports for a long time

**Gatsby** see GREAT GATSBY

**GATT** /gæt/ General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade; an agreement between 76 countries which aims to encourage trade between the members: *GATT talks*

**Gat-wick Air-port** /'gætwɪk 'eəpɔːt||-'eəpɔːrt/ one of the airports serving London, which is used for international flights and handles a large number of passengers. It is 25 miles south of London.

**gauche** /gəʊʃ/ *adj* awkward, esp. in social behaviour; doing and saying the wrong things

**gau-cho** /'gautʃəʊ/ || **-chos** a S American COWBOY, esp. of the plains (PAMPAS) of Argentina

**Gau-dí** /'gaʊdi/ || **An-to-ni-o** /æn'təʊniəʊ/ (1852–1926) a Spanish ARCHITECT known esp. for the *Templo Sagrada Familia* in Barcelona

**gau-dy** /'gɔːdi/ *adj* too bright in colour and/or with too much decoration: *a gaudy display of trinkets/of wealth* —dily *adv* —diness *n* [U]

**gauge**<sup>1</sup> || also **gage** AmE— /geɪdʒ/ *n* 1 an instrument for measuring size, amount, etc., e.g. the width of wire or the amount of rain that has fallen: *a rain gauge* | *the fuel gauge in a car* —see picture at CAR 2 the thickness of wire or certain metal objects, or the width of the barrel of a gun: *a 12 gauge shotgun* 3 the distance between the RAILS of a railway or between

*La Sagrada Familia*  
by Antonio Gaudí





the wheels of a train: *standard gauge* (4' 8½") — see also BROAD GAUGE, NARROW GAUGE 4 a standard measure of weight, size, etc., to which objects can be compared

**gauge**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T] 1 to measure by means of a gauge: *A thermometer gauges the temperature.* | (fig.) *He gauged the height of the tunnel with his eye.* 2 to make a judgment about: *Can you gauge what her reaction is likely to be?*

**Gau-guin** /'gəʊgæn||gəʊ'gæn/, Paul (1848–1903) a French painter who went to live in Tahiti, where he painted scenes which showed his interest in the life of the people there, using pure, bright colours

**Gaul-list** /'gəʊlɪst||'gɔ:l-/ *n* 1 someone who supported the French political movement during the Second World War led by Charles de Gaulle in opposition to the Vichy Regime 2 a follower of de Gaulle's political principles and ideas — see also DE GAULLE — **Gaullist** *adj*

**gaunt** /gɔ:nt/ *adj* thin, as if ill or hungry: *He had gaunt cheeks and hollow eyes after his long illness.* | (fig.) *The old house stood gaunt and empty, a complete ruin.* — ~ness *n* [U]

**gaunt-let** /'gɔ:ntlɪt/ *n* 1 [C] a long GLOVE covering the wrist, worn to protect the hand in certain sports or industrial processes 2 [C] a GLOVE covered in metal, used as armour by soldiers in former times 3 [the] an invitation to fight, esp. when two people's beliefs are opposed (esp. in the phrases *throw down/pick up the gauntlet*) 4 *run the gauntlet (of)* to suffer or experience (attack, blame, danger, etc.): *He ran the gauntlet of newspaper attacks.*

**gauze** /gɔ:z/ *n* [U] 1 fine thin net-like material, used esp. as a curtain or in medicine to cover wounds: *cotton gauze* 2 *AmE* for BANDAGE<sup>1</sup> — **gauzy** *adj*

**Gav-as-kar** /'gævəskɑ:r/, **Sun-il** /'sʊnɪl/ (1949– ) an Indian cricket player who scored (SCORE) a record number of runs in a record number of test matches between 1971 and 1987

**gave** /geɪv/ *past tense* of GIVE

**gav-el** /'gævəl/ *n* a small hammer used by a CHAIRPERSON, a US judge, or an AUCTIONEER selling things in public, for striking a table in order to get attention

**ga-votte** /gə'vɒt||gə'vɔ:t/ *n* (a piece of music for) a fast happy dance from France, danced esp. in former times

**gawk** /gɔ:k/ *v* [I (at)] to look at something in a foolish way; *gawp*: *Don't just stand there gawking!* — ~er *n*

**gaw-ky** /'gɔ:ki/ *adj* (of a person) awkward in movement, esp. because of long thin limbs — **kiness** *n* [U]

**gawp** /gɔ:p/ *v* [I (at)] *BrE* to look at something in a foolish way, esp. with the mouth open: *The little boys gawped at the princess as she stepped out of the taxi.* — compare GAPE, GOGGLE

**gay**<sup>1</sup> /geɪ/ *adj* 1 *infml* for HOMOSEXUAL: *gay rights*

► **CULTURAL NOTE** The word **gay** is used by gay people themselves and is not offensive. ◀

2 bright or attractive, so that one feels happy to see it, hear it, etc.: *gay colours* 3 cheerful; happy; full of fun — see also GAILY

**gay**<sup>2</sup> *n infml* a HOMOSEXUAL person, esp. a man

**gay com-mu-ni-ty** /,gə'ju:nɪti/ [the] those members of the population who are gay, esp. those who are open about it, and are united by shared beliefs and views about political questions, rights, or other subjects which particularly concern them: *The book was strongly criticized by leading members of the gay community.*

**Gaye** /geɪ/, **Marvin** (1939–84) an American soul singer and songwriter whose many successful songs were part of the Detroit MOTOWN sound, and included *I Heard It Through the Grapevine*

**gay-ness** /'geɪnɪs/ *n* [U] the quality of being gay (esp. of being HOMOSEXUAL) — compare GAIETY

**gay rights** /,gə'raɪts/ *n* [P] legal measures and protection for HOMOSEXUAL men and women that result in their being treated the same as all people in matters such as housing, jobs, insurance, etc. Many US cities and states have politically active gay groups that have influenced new laws to help them, though there is usu. some opposition to this from religious and CONSERVATIVE groups. In Britain there is less organization of political activity among gay people: *a gay rights activist/demonstration* | *Does the party platform say anything about gay rights?*

**Ga-za Strip** /,gɑ:zə 'stri:p/ [the] a coastal area in the Middle East, between Egypt and Israel, which has been held by Israel since 1967 and is inhabited mainly by Palestinians.

**gaze**<sup>1</sup> /geɪz/ *v* [I+adv/prep] to look steadily, esp. for a long time and often without being conscious of what one is doing: *She sat gazing at the fire/gazing out of the window.*

► **USAGE** Compare **gaze**, **stare**, and **gape**. **Gaze** is used when a person looks steadily at something, often with admiration or pleasure: *We stood gazing at the beautiful scenery.* **Stare** is used when a person keeps their eyes open and fixed on something in wonder, fear, anger or deep thought: *He stared at me, trying to remember who I was.* **Gape** means "to look hard in surprise, esp. with the mouth open": *They gaped at me when I told them about the gold I had found.* ◀

**gaze**<sup>2</sup> *n* [S] a steady fixed look: *She turned her worried gaze from one person to the other.* | *He turned his head away, feeling too ashamed to meet her gaze.*

**ga-ze-bo** /gə'zɪ:bəʊ||-'zeɪ-, -'zɪz-/ *n -bos* a shelter or hut, usu. in a garden, where one can sit and look at the view

**ga-zelle** /gə'zel/ *n -zelles* or *-zelle* an animal like a small deer, which jumps in graceful movements and has beautiful large eyes

**ga-zette** /gə'zet/ *n* 1 an official newspaper, esp. one from the government giving lists of people who have been employed by them, important notices, etc. 2 *AmE* a newspaper

**gaz-et-teer** /,gæzɪ'tɪə/ *n* a list of names of places, printed as a dictionary or as a list at the end of a book of maps

**gaz-pach-o** /gæz'pætʃəʊ||gə'spɑ:z-/ *n* [U] a Spanish cold soup made from TOMATO, green pepper, CUCUMBER, and onion

**ga-zump** /gə'zʌmp/ *v* [T] *BrE infml* (of the owner of a house) to refuse to sell a house to (someone who thinks they have bought it) and sell it instead to someone who has offered more money

**ga-zun-der** /gə'zʌndə/ also **gaz-welch** /gæz'weltʃ/— *v* [T] *BrE* to try to force (someone selling a house) to lower the price by threatening to pull out after an agreement on the sale has been reached. This is thought to be an unfriendly and unfair thing to do, but it is not against the law in England.

**Gaz-za** /'gæzə/ see Paul GASCOIGNE

**GB** /,dʒi: 'bi:/ *abbrev. for:* Great Britain

**GBH** /,dʒi: bi: 'eɪtʃ/ *abbrev. for:* GRIEVOUS BODILY HARM

**GCE** /,dʒi: si: 'i:z-/ *n* General Certificate of Education; an examination in any of a range of subjects taken in British schools before 1988 by pupils aged 15 or over. The examinations were O LEVELS and A LEVELS, and GCSE examinations have now taken the place of O levels.

**GCHQ** /,dʒi: si: eɪtʃ 'kju:/ Government Communication Headquarters; a place near Cheltenham where the British government collects information about enemy countries, esp. by listening to their radio messages. It came into the news in 1984 when the British government announced that workers at GCHQ would no longer have the right to belong to a union and there was much protest.

**GCSE** /,dʒi: si: es 'i:z-/ *n* General Certificate of Secondary Education; a school examination in any of a range of subjects which the took place of O LEVELS and CSEs in Britain in 1988, and involves not only final examinations but also work done on a two-year course. GCSEs are taken by pupils of all abilities: *She's taking seven GCSEs* — see also CONTINUOUS ASSESSMENT; compare O LEVEL and see also extra information on page 408

**Gdansk** /gə'dænsk/ a city and port in Poland, known for its shipyards where RIOTS by the workers in 1970 led to government changes and the establishment of the trade union Solidarity in 1980; formerly known as Danzig

**g'day** /gə'deɪ/ *interj AustrE* for GOOD DAY (1)

**GDP** /,dʒi: di: 'pi:z/ [the] Gross Domestic Product; the total value of all the goods and services produced in a country, usu. in a single year, except for income received from abroad — compare GNP

**gear**<sup>1</sup> /gɪə/ *n* 1 [C;U] an apparatus, esp. one consisting of a set of toothed wheels, that allows power to be passed from one part of a machine to another so as to control



the power, speed, or direction of movement: *She changed gear to make the car go up the hill faster.* | *Most cars have four forward gears.* | *She put the van into bottom gear (BrE)/low gear (AmE) to climb the hill.* | *"The car isn't moving!" "That's because you're not in gear."* | *The truck screeched to a halt with a crashing of gears.* | *reverse gear* | (fig.) *The industry has been out of gear (=not working well) since before the dispute began.* **2** [U] a set of equipment or tools, esp. used for a particular purpose: *climbing gear* (=boots, ropes, etc.) **b** (often in comb.) clothing or an article of clothing, esp. for a particular purpose: *football gear* | *headgear* **3** [U] an apparatus or part of a machine which has a special use in controlling a vehicle: *the landing gear of an aircraft* (=its wheels and wheel supports)

## gear<sup>2</sup> v

**gear** sthg. to sthg. *phr v* [T often pass.] to allow (an activity or course of action) to be dependent on or influenced by (a particular fact or condition): *We must gear the amount of products we make to the level of public demand.* | *Education should be geared to the children's needs and abilities.*

**gear** sbdy. **up** *phr v* [T usu. pass.] *infml* to put (esp. oneself) into a state of excited or anxious expectation about an activity: *The party is all geared up for the forthcoming election campaign.* | *I was all geared up to have an argument about it and then she said it didn't matter.*

**gear-box** /'gɪəbɒks/ || 'gɪərbɔːks/ *n* a metal case containing the gears of a vehicle

**gear le-ver** /'lɪː ˌvɜː/ also **gear stick** /'lɪː ˌstɪk/ *BrE* || **gear shift** *AmE* — *n* a movable metal rod with which one controls the gears of a vehicle — see picture at CAR and at BICYCLE

**GEC** /ˌdʒiː ɪz 'sɪz/ the General Electric Company plc; a British firm that specializes in ELECTRONICS, TELECOMMUNICATIONS, and other HIGH-TECHNOLOGY products, and operates in many countries around the world

**geck-o** /'gɛkəʊ/ *n* -os or -oes a small animal of the LIZARD family, esp. of tropical countries

**GED** /ˌdʒiː ɪz 'diː/ *n* general equivalency diploma; in the US, a degree, equivalent to a HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA which can be studied for at anytime by those who left high school without finishing

**gee**<sup>1</sup> /dʒiː/ *interj infml*, esp. *AmE* (an expression of surprise)

## gee<sup>2</sup> v

**gee up** *phr v BrE* **1** [T] (*gee* sbdy./sthg. ↔ **up**) *infml* to encourage forcefully into greater activity or effort: *This class has been very lazy lately; maybe the new teacher will gee them up a bit.* **2** *gee up* (used as a command to a horse) Go faster!

**gee-gee** /'lɪː ˌvɜː/ *n BrE sl* (used esp. by or to children or in horse racing) a horse

**geek** /gɪːk/ *n sl* **1** *AmE* someone who bites the heads off animals that are alive as part of a show **2** a stupid or annoying person — *geeky adj*

**geese** /gɪːs/ *pl. of* GOOSE

**gee whiz** /ˌdʒiː 'wɪz/ *interj AmE infml* an expression of surprise

**gee-zer** /'gɪːzə/ *n sl* a man, often one who is thought to be a little strange: *I didn't realize that funny old geezer was your grandpa!*

**Geh-rig** /'gerɪg/, Lou /luː/ (1903–41) an American BASEBALL player who set a record for playing in the greatest number of games without missing any

**Gei-ger count-er** /'gaɪgə ˌkaʊntə/ || -gər-/ *n* an instrument for finding and measuring RADIOACTIVITY

**gei-sha** /'geɪʃə/ also **geisha girl** /'lɪː ˌvɜː/ — *n* a Japanese woman who is trained in the art of dancing, singing, and providing entertainment, esp. for men

**gel**<sup>1</sup> /dʒel/ *n* [C;U] a substance in a state between solid and liquid; *JELLY*: *hair gel*

**gel**<sup>2</sup> *v* -ll- [I] to JELL

**gel-a-tine** /'dʒelətɪn/ || -tn/ also **gel-a-tin** /'dʒelətɪn/ || -tn/ *AmE* — *n* [U] a clear substance obtained from boiled animal bones, used for making jellies (*JELLY*)

**ge-lat-i-nous** /dʒɪˌlætɪnəs/ *adj esp. tech* like *JELLY*; in a state between solid and liquid

**geld** /geld/ *v* [T] to remove the TESTICLES (=sexual organs) of (certain male animals)

**geld-ing** /'geldɪŋ/ *n* an animal, usu. a horse, that has been gelded

**Gel-dof** /'geldɒf/ || -ɔːf, -ɑːf/, Bob (1954– ) an Irish singer who sang with his band **The Boomtown Rats**, before becoming involved in raising money for people dying from hunger in Ethiopia with the **CHARITY Band Aid** and the **Live Aid** concerts in the 1980s

**gel-ig-nite** /'dʒelɪɡnaɪt/ *n* [U] a very powerful explosive

**Gel-ler** /'gelə/ ||, U-ri /'juəri/ (1946– ) an Israeli **PSYCHIC** performer, who claimed that he could use his special powers to bend objects such as **FORKS**

**gem** /dʒem/ *n* **1** a precious stone, esp. when cut into a regular shape; jewel **2** a thing or person regarded as esp. good, clever, valuable, etc.: *My secretary is an absolute gem/a real gem.*

**Gem-i-ni** /'dʒemɪnaɪ/ || -ni/ *n* **1** [U] the third sign of the **ZODIAC**, represented by a set of **TWINS** (=two people born together) **2** [C] a person born between May 23 and June 21 — see **ZODIAC (USAGE)** and see picture at **ZODIAC**

**Gemini pro-gram** /'... ˌprɒ/ [the] an American space programme of the mid-1960s which prepared for the **Apollo** program

**gen**<sup>1</sup> /dʒen/ *n* [U (on)] *BrE old-fash infml* the correct or complete information: *She gave me all the gen on the new office arrangements that were made while I was away.*

**gen**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T] (of a computer system) to form from various parts (of **SOFTWARE**) so as to make a whole: *This system was genned in October 1990.*

**gen up** *phr v* [I (on); T (=gen sbdy. up) (on, about)] *BrE infml* to (cause to) learn the facts thoroughly: *I must gen up on the route before we leave.* | *She's thoroughly genned up about all our procedures.*

**gen-darme** /'ʒɒndɑːm/ || 'ʒɑːndɑːrm/ *n* a French policeman

**gen-der** /'dʒendə/ || *n* [C;U] **1** *tech* (in grammar) a the system (in some languages) of marking words such as nouns, adjectives, and **PRONOUNS** as being **MASCULINE**, **FEMININE**, or **NEUTER**: *One of the ways of showing difference of gender in French is by changing the endings of adjectives.* **b** any of these three divisions: *German has three genders but French only has two.* **2** *tech or euph* the division into male or female; sex: *gender differentiation within a species*

**gender-bend-er** /'lɪː ˌvɜː/ *n sl* **1** someone, often a popular singer or entertainer, who takes on some of the ways of behaving, dressing, etc., of someone of the opposite sex **2** something that fits onto a male **PLUG** to make it work as a female, or onto a female plug to make it work as a male

**gene** /dʒiːn/ *n* any of several small parts of the material at the **NUCLEUS** (=centre) of a cell, that control the development of all the qualities in a living thing which have been passed on from its parents

**gene-al-o-gy** /ˌdʒiːniˈælədʒi/ *n* **1** [U] (the study of) the history of the members of a family from the past to the present **2** [C] an account of this for one particular family, esp. when shown in a drawing with lines and names spreading like the branches of a tree — see also **FAMILY TREE** — **gist** *n* — **gical** /ˌdʒiːniəˈlɒdʒɪkəl/ || -'lɑː/ *adj* — **gically** /kli/ *adv*

**gene pool** /'lɪː ˌvɜː/ *n* all of the genes available to a named (or the human) **SPECIES**

**gen-e-ra** /'dʒenərə/ *pl. of* GENUS

**gen-e-ral**<sup>1</sup> /'dʒenərəl/ *adj* **1** concerning or influencing the lives of all or most people: *There is a general feeling that this law isn't working properly.* | *It's not in the general interest to close railways.* (=it's not good for most people) | *The general public* (=ordinary people) *weren't allowed in to the secret trial.* | *Is the staff car park for general use or only for the senior staff?* | *Worry about high food prices has now become fairly general.* **2** not limited in range; concerning or including most cases, things, etc.: *The school gives a good general education.* (=in many subjects) | *She took a general degree at university.* | *a general store* (=a small shop that sells many different types of things) | *Rain will become general overnight.* | *I don't give interviews as a general rule* (=usually), *but in this case I'll make an exception.* **3** not detailed; describing the main things only: *Just give me a general idea of the work.* **4** [after *n*] (as the second part of an official title) chief: *the Postmaster-General* | *Attorney General* | *Surgeon General* **5** *in general* usually; in most cases: *In general, people like her.* | *People in general like her.* — see also **GENERALLY**



**general**<sup>2</sup> *n* 1 a high rank in the army or airforce —see TABLE 3 2 a person in command of an army or other fighting force: *Here is the report, General.*

**General Ac-ci-dent** /ˌdʒenərəl 'ædɪnt/ a British company that deals in LIFE ASSURANCE

**General As-sem-bly** /ˌdʒenərəl 'æzəmbli/ *n* [C+*sing./pl.v*] 1 the main DELIBERATIVE body of the United Nations in which each member country has one vote 2 the top governing body of some religious DENOMINATIONS, esp. the Church of Scotland and other Presbyterian churches 3 a law-making body, esp. in a US state

**General Bel-gra-no** /ˌdʒenərəl bel'grɑ:nəu/ [*the*] an Argentinian ship sunk by the British in 1982 in the Falklands War —see BELGRANO AFFAIR

**general coun-sel** /ˌdʒenərəl 'kaʊnsəl/ *n* 1 the chief legal officer of an American company 2 a firm of US lawyers which gives general rather than specialist advice

**general de-liv-er-y** /ˌdʒenərəl 'delɪvəri/ *n* [U] *AmE* for POSTER RESTANTE

**general e-lec-tion** /ˌdʒenərəl 'ɪleɪʃən/ *n* an election in which all the voters in a country take part at the same time to choose the members of a government —see also extra information on page 412

**General E-lec-tric** /ˌdʒenərəl 'ɪleɪtrɪk/ an American company that makes electrical and electronic equipment

**General Hos-pi-tal** /ˌdʒenərəl 'hɒspɪtəl/ a long-running daytime SOAP OPERA on American television. It is seen as typical of soap operas, esp. when people are talking in a humorous way: *Her personal life is right out of General Hospital.*

**gen-e-ra-lis-si-mo** /ˌdʒenərəl 'ɪsɪsməʊ/ *n* -mos (in certain countries) a commander of the army, navy, and airforce, esp. one who has political as well as military power

**gen-e-ral-i-ty** /ˌdʒenərəl 'rælɪti/ *n* 1 [C often *pl.*] a general statement; point for consideration which is not detailed: *We all know there's a lack of food in the world, but let's move on from generalities to the particular problems of feeding the people of this country.* 2 [*the*+P (of)] *fml* the greater part; most: *The generality of people are neither good nor bad, but somewhere in between.* 3 [U] *fml* the quality of being general

**gen-e-ral-i-za-tion** also -isation *BrE* /ˌdʒenərəl 'aɪzəʃən/ *n* 1 [U] the act of generalizing 2 [C] sometimes *derog* a general statement, principle, or opinion formed from (sometimes incomplete) consideration of particular facts: *The report's conclusion is full of sweeping generalizations, some of them based on very little evidence.*

**gen-e-ral-ize** also -ise *BrE* /ˌdʒenərəl 'aɪz/ *v* 1 [I (about)] to make a general statement: *Our history teacher is always generalizing; he never deals with anything in detail.* 2 [I (from)] to form a general principle, opinion, etc., after considering only a small number of the facts: *It is unfair to generalize from these two accidents and say that all young people are bad drivers.* 3 [T] to put (a principle, statement, rule, etc.) into a more general form that covers a larger number of particular cases: *to generalize a law*

**general know-ledge** /ˌdʒenərəl 'nɒlɪdʒ/ *n* [U] knowledge of facts from a number of different subjects, e.g. the capitals of countries, political events or people, historical events and dates, famous books and writers, people in sports and entertainment, etc.: *a general knowledge quiz*

**gen-er-al-ly** /ˌdʒenərəl 'ɪ/ *adv* 1 usually: *We generally go to France for our holidays.* 2 by most people: *It is generally agreed that smoking is bad for you.* | *The plan has been generally accepted.* 3 without considering particular cases or details, but only what is true in most cases: *Generally speaking, the more you pay for stereo equipment, the better the system.*

**General Mo-tors** /ˌdʒenərəl 'mɒtəz/ the largest maker of cars and TRUCKS in the US, including Chevrolet, Oldsmobile, Pontiac, and Buick

**general prac-tice** /ˌdʒenərəl 'præktɪs/ *n* 1 [U] work in a profession, esp. law or medicine, that is of different kinds and not limited to a special kind: *He did five years of general practice before concentrating on criminal law.* 2 [C] (the office of) a group of lawyers or doctors who do all kinds of work in their profession: *She works in a general practice on 15th Street.*

**general prac-ti-tion-er** /ˌdʒenərəl 'præktɪʃənər/ *fml* for GP

**general pub-lic** /ˌdʒenərəl 'pʌblɪk/ *n* [*the*+S+*sing./pl.v*] PUBLIC<sup>2</sup> (1)

**general pur-pose** /ˌdʒenərəl 'pʊr-pəʊz/ *adj* that is suitable for most uses of the stated thing: *a general purpose fire extinguisher* (=puts out all kinds of fires) | *general purpose tyres*

**gen-er-al-ship** /ˌdʒenərəl 'ʃɪp/ *n* [U] an army commander's military skill

**general staff** /ˌdʒenərəl 'stɑːf/ *n* [(*the*) S+*sing./pl.v*] the group of army officers who work for a commanding officer

**general strike** /ˌdʒenərəl 'straɪk/ *n* the stopping of work by most of the workers in a country at the same time. In Britain the only general strike has been the one in 1926, when many people stopped work in support of the men who worked in the COALMINES. The strike had a great effect but was not successful in its political aims.

**General Syn-od** /ˌdʒenərəl 'sɪn-əd/ [*the*] the group of people who govern the Church of England, which includes BISHOPS and representatives from the church, both official and unofficial

**gen-e-rate** /ˌdʒenə'reɪt/ *v* [T] 1 *fml* to cause (esp. feelings or ideas) to exist; produce: *The accident generated a lot of public interest in the nuclear power issue.* | *The personnel department seems to be generating a lot of paperwork these days.* | *to generate 15 million dollars' worth of business* | *This computer program will generate a list of random numbers.* 2 *tech* to produce (heat or electricity): *an electricity generating station*

**gen-e-ra-tion** /ˌdʒenə'reɪʃən/ *n* 1 [C] a period of time in which a human being can grow up and have a family, about 25 or 30 years: *Members of my family have lived in this house for generations.* 2 [C+*sing./pl.v*] a all the members of a family of about the same age: *This valuable heirloom has been passed down from generation to generation.* (=from parents to children) | *This family photo shows three generations: myself, my parents, and my grandparents.* b all people of about the same age: *The younger generation only seems/seem to be interested in pop music and clothes.* | *Most people of my father's generation have experienced war.* 3 [C] all the members of a developing class of things at a certain stage: *The latest generation of anti-tank missiles has several new refinements.* —see also FIFTH-GENERATION COMPUTER 4 [U] the act or process of generating: *the generation of electricity*

**generation gap** /ˌdʒenə'reɪʃən 'ɡæp/ *n* [*the*] the difference in ideas, feelings, and interests between older and younger people, esp. considered as causing lack of understanding: *How can teachers help to bridge the generation gap between parents and their teenage children?*

**gen-e-ra-tive** /ˌdʒenə'reɪtɪv/ *adj* having the power to produce or generate

**gen-e-ra-tor** /ˌdʒenə'reɪtə/ *n* a machine which generates something, esp. electricity —compare DYNAMO, MAGNETO

**gen-er-ic** /dʒɪˈnerɪk/ *adj* 1 *tech* of a GENUS: *The Latin term "Vulpes" is the generic name for the various types of fox.* 2 shared by or typical of a whole class of things 3 esp. *AmE* cheaper because of not having a TRADEMARK: *a generic drug* | *generic canned goods* — ~ally /kli/ *adv*

**gen-e-ros-i-ty** /ˌdʒenə'rɒsɪti/ -'rɑː-/ *n* 1 [U] the quality of being generous 2 [C *usu. pl.*] a generous act

**gen-e-rous** /ˌdʒenə'rəs/ *adj* 1 showing readiness to give money, help, kindness, etc.; unselfish: *It was very generous of you to lend them your new car for their holiday.* | *She's not very generous with the food.* (=she gives small amounts) | *a generous and forgiving nature* —compare MEAN<sup>1</sup> 2 larger, kinder, etc., than usual: *a generous meal* | *generous gifts* | *These farmers receive generous subsidies from the government.* — ~ly *adv*: *Please give generously to this deserving charity.*

**gen-e-sis** /ˌdʒenɪ'sɪs/ *n* [(*the*)+S (of)] *fml* the beginning or origin: *We cannot yet satisfactorily explain the genesis of the universe.*

**Genesis** the first part of the Bible, in which the Creation, Adam and Eve, the Flood, and many other events important in Christianity and Judaism are described. Most people know the first words of Genesis: "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth."

**ge-net-ic** /dʒɪˈnetɪk/ *adj* of GENES or GENETICS: *genetic defects* — ~ally /kli/ *adv*

**genetic code** /ˌdʒenɪtɪk 'kɒd/ *n* [*the*] the arrangement of GENES which controls the way a living thing develops

**genetic en-gin-eer-ing** /ˌdʒenɪtɪk 'ɪnʒɪnərɪŋ/ *n* [U] the changing of the



nature of a creature or of its organs, cells, etc., by the artificial changing of its GENES

**genetic fin-ger-print** /ˌdʒɛnɪk ˈfɪŋɡəˌprɪnt/ also **DNA fingerprint** // *n* the pattern of genetic information which is different for each person, used to show a person's IDENTITY and used esp. to show whether a person is guilty of a crime

**genetic fin-ger-print-ing** /ˌdʒɛnɪk ˈfɪŋɡəˌprɪntɪŋ/ *n* [U] the process of using genetic fingerprints to show who a person is and whether they are guilty of a crime: *The murderer was caught through genetic fingerprinting.*

**ge-net-i-cist** /dʒɛnɪˈtɪsɪst/ *n* a person who studies genetics

**ge-net-ics** /dʒɛnɪˈtɪks/ *n* [U] the study of how living things develop according to the effects of those substances passed on in the cells from the parents — see also GENE, HEREDITY

**Ge-ne-va** /dʒəˈni:və/ a city in Switzerland, known for being the main base for organizations such as the Red Cross, and the World Health Organization

**Geneva Con-ven-tion** /ˌdʒɛnəˈvɪə ˌkɒnˌvɛnˈʃən/ [the] any of several agreements, accepted by most countries, about how to treat people hurt or taken prisoner in war: *He can't shoot those captured pilots — it's against the Geneva Convention.*

**Gen-ghis Khan** /ˌdʒɛŋɡɪs ˈkɑːn, ˌɡɛŋ-/ (?1160–1227) ruler of the Mongol people in China who took over N India and sent his army as far as the Crimea. He was a law maker, but is known esp. for his cruelty in battle. People with very RIGHT-WING political opinions are sometimes described as being like Genghis Khan: *"What are her politics?" "Oh, she's somewhat to the right of Genghis Khan."*

**ge-ni-al** /ˈdʒɪːniəl/ *adj* cheerful, friendly, and good-tempered: *he's a genial man* | *He greeted us with a genial smile.* — *~ly adv* — *~ity* /ˈdʒɪːniəlɪti/ *n* [U]

**ge-nie** /ˈdʒɪːni/ also **djinn**— *n* -nies or -nii /niː/ a magical spirit in Arab fairy stories, often contained in a bottle or oil lamp. He becomes the slave of the person who rubs the lamp and makes him appear: *Aladdin rubbed his lamp, and the genie appeared.*

**gen-i-tal** /ˈdʒɛnɪtəl/ *adj* of or having an effect on the sex organs: *genital herpes* — *~ly adv*: *genitally transmitted*

**gen-i-tals** /ˈdʒɛnɪtəlz/ also **gen-i-ta-li-a** /ˌdʒɛnɪˈteɪliə/ *tech*— *n* [P] the outer sex organs

**gen-i-tive** /ˈdʒɛnɪtɪv/ *n* *tech* a particular form of a noun in certain languages, such as Latin and Greek, which shows that the noun is a possessor or an origin — compare POSSESSIVE — **genitive adj**

**ge-ni-us** /ˈdʒɪːniəs/ *n* 1 [U] great and rare powers of thought, skill, or imagination: *There's genius in the way this was painted.* | *Rembrandt's self-portraits are works of genius.* 2 [C] a person of very great ability or very high INTELLIGENCE: *Einstein was a genius.* 3 [S (for)] a special ability or skill; TALENT: *She has a genius for saying the wrong thing.* 4 [C] someone who has the stated influence, usu. a bad influence, over someone else: *He was her evil genius, leading her into a life of crime against her will.* — see also *I have nothing to declare but my genius* (DECLARE (3))

▷ USAGE **Genius** is a very strong word. It is only used of very rare ability or of the person who has it: *Einstein had genius/was a genius.* Talent is less strong. It is used of special ability: *a young actress with a lot of talent* | *She has a talent for music.* | *He's one of the bright young talents in music today.* ◁

**genius lo-ci** /ˌdʒɪːniəs ˈləʊsəi/ *n* [(the) S] Lat the typical character of a place, as shown by the feelings it produces in one

**Gen-o-a** /ˈdʒɛnəʊə/ a port on the Gulf of Genoa, in NW Italy

**gen-o-cide** /ˈdʒɛnəsəɪd/ *n* [U] the killing of a whole group of people, esp. a whole race

**gen-re** /ˈʒɒnrə/ ˈʒɑːnrə/ *n* Fr 1 a class of works of art, literature, or music marked by a particular style, form, or subject: *Many of his finest works belong to the genre of nature poetry.* | *What genre of films do you like?* 2 *fml* a sort or kind

**Gen-scher** /ˈɡɛnʃər/, **Hans-Die-trich** /hæns ˈdiːtrɪk, -ɪx/ (1927– ) a West German politician, chairman of the Free Democratic Party from 1974–85

**gent** /dʒɛnt/ *n* *infml* or *humor* a gentleman: *You're a real*

*ent!* | *What are you drinking tonight, gents?* — see also CITY GENT, GENTS

**gen-teel** /dʒɛnˈtiːl/ *adj* 1 showing unnaturally polite manners, esp. so as to appear socially important: *She always talks in such a genteel voice when she's on the phone.* | *They live in genteel poverty.* (=though poor, they try to appear of a higher social class) 2 *old use* of a high social class — *~ly* /dʒɛnˈtiːl-li/ *adv*

**gen-tian** /ˈdʒɛnʃən/ *n* a plant with blue flowers which grows in some mountainous areas

**gen-tile** /ˈdʒɛntaɪl/ *n, adj* [A] (sometimes *cap.*) (a person who is) not Jewish; this word is used esp. by those Jewish people who think it is important to marry someone of their own race or religion: *Their daughter married a gentile.*

**gen-til-i-ty** /dʒɛnˈtɪlɪti/ *n* [U] the quality of being genteel

**gen-tle** /ˈdʒɛntl/ *adj* not rough, violent, or severe in movement, character, etc.; soft: *Be gentle when you brush the baby's hair.* | *A gentle breeze stirred the leaves.* | *a gentle rebuke* | *The slope is quite gentle.* (=not steep) — *~tly adv*: *"Don't cry", he said gently.* | *Careful when you lift that desk — gently does it!* (=be gentle) — *~ness n* [U]

**gen-tle-folk** /ˈdʒɛntlfəʊk/ also **gentlefolks** /-fəʊks/— *n* [P] *old use* people of high social class; GENTRY

**gen-tle-man** /ˈdʒɛntlmən/ *n* -men /mən/ 1 a man who behaves well towards others and who can be trusted to keep his promises and always act honourably: *He was a perfect gentleman and looked the other way while she took off her wet clothes.* | *I wouldn't do business with him — he's no gentleman.* 2 *polite* a man: *Say thank you to the kind gentleman, Billy.* | *Good evening, ladies and gentlemen.*

▷ USAGE **Lady** and **gentleman** can be used as a respectful way of speaking about a woman or a man. The words are used esp. in the person's presence: *Mr Smith, there's a gentleman/lady here to see you.* *Shall I show him/her in,* or when speaking to a gathering of people: *Ladies and gentlemen, I'd like to introduce our speaker for this evening.* In other cases **woman** and **man** are the usual words: *Is the director a man or a woman?* | *the first woman prime minister* | *I met a very interesting man/woman on the train.* — see also FEMALE (USAGE) ◁

**gentleman-at-arms** /ˌdʒɛntlmən ˈæt ˈɑːms/ *n* **gentlemen-at-arms** a man who is one of a group who guard a king or queen on important occasions

**gentleman farm-er** /ˌdʒɛntlmən ˈfɑːm-ə/ *n* BrE a man of high social class who has a farm for pleasure rather than profit

**gen-tle-man-ly** /ˈdʒɛntlmənli/ *adj* fair, kind, and honourable in behaviour; typical of a gentleman

**gentleman's a-gree-ment** /ˌdʒɛntlmən ˈæɡriːmənt/ *n* an unwritten agreement made between people who trust each other

**gentleman's club** /ˌdʒɛntlmən ˈklʌb/ *n* a club which does not usu. allow women members. It is often old, well established, and in a pleasant part of a city. Gentlemen's clubs usu. have a library, a bar, and a restaurant. Gentlemen's clubs are associated esp. with upper-class men.

**gentleman's gen-tle-man** /ˌdʒɛntlmən ˈdʒɛntl-mən/ *n* a VALET

**gentle sex** /ˈdʒɛntl ˈseks/ also **fair sex**— *n* [(the+sing./pl. v)] the female sex; women

**gen-tle-wom-an** /ˈdʒɛntl ˈwʊmən/ *n* -women /ˌwɪmɪn/ *old use* a woman of high social class; lady

**gen-tri-fic-a-tion** /ˌdʒɛntrɪfɪˈkeɪʃən/ *n* [U] *infml* the process by which a street or area formerly lived in by poor people is changed by people with more money going to live there. This is considered a bad thing by some people because it means that poor people, who may have been born and grown up in the area, can no longer afford to live there. — **gentrify** /ˈdʒɛntrɪfaɪ/ *v* [T] *usu. pass.*

**gen-try** /ˈdʒɛntri/ *n* [(the) P] people of high social class: *The landed gentry are those who own land from which they obtain their income.*

**gents** /dʒɛnts/ BrE || also **men's room** AmE— *n* (often *cap.*) a public TOILET for men — compare LADIES; see TOILET (USAGE)

**gen-u-flect** /ˈdʒɛnjʃflekt/ *v* [I (before)] *fml* to bend one's knee as a sign of respect: *They genuflected before the altar.* — *~ion* /ˌdʒɛnjʃˈflekʃən/ *n* [C;U]

**gen-u-ine** /ˈdʒɛnjuːn/ *adj* 1 actually being what he/she/it seems to be; real: *"Is this a genuine Ming vase?" "No, it's*



a fake." | "This service is only available to genuine tourists." 2 without dishonesty or pretending; sincere: *We all feel genuine concern for their plight.* | *She's a very genuine person.* | *a genuine attempt to settle their disagreements* — ~ly adv — ~ness n [U]

**ge-nus** /'dʒi:nəs/ *n* **genera** /'dʒenərə/ *tech* a division of animals or plants, below a FAMILY and above a SPECIES — see also GENERIC

**geo-** see WORD FORMATION

**ge-o-cen-tric** /,dʒi:əʊ'sentrɪk/ *adj* having, or measured from, the Earth as the central point: *In former times, people thought the universe was geocentric.*

**ge-o-de-sic** /,dʒi:əʊ'di:zɪk/ -'des-/ *n, adj tech* of or being the shortest distance between two points on a non-flat surface, such as a SPHERE (=ball-like object): *flying on the geodesic between New York and Tokyo*

**geodesic dome** /,..... ' / *n tech* a large ball-shaped building made from small, straight pieces connected together to form POLYGONS

**ge-og-ra-phy** /dʒi'ɒgrəfi, 'dʒɒgrəfi/ *n* 1 [U] the study of the countries of the world and of the seas, rivers, towns, etc., on the Earth's surface: *a geography lesson* — see also PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY 2 [the+of] the arrangement or positions of the parts of (a particular place): *Until you know the geography of the building it's not easy to find your way out!* — **-pher** *n* — **-phical** /,dʒi:ə'græfɪkəl/ *adj*: *geographical knowledge* — **-phically** /kli/ *adv*

**ge-ol-o-gy** /dʒi'ɒlədʒi/ -'ælə-/ *n* [U] the study of the materials (rocks, soil, etc.) which make up the Earth, and of their changes during the history of the world — **-gist** *n* — **-gical** /,dʒi:ə'lɒdʒɪkəl/ -'lɑ:/ *adj*: *geological formations* — **-gically** /kli/ *adv*

**ge-o-met-ric** /,dʒi:ə'metrɪk/ also **geo-met-ri-cal** /-rɪkəl/ — *adj* 1 concerning geometry 2 (esp. of straight lines and regular patterns) like the figures in geometry: *Muslim art is characterized by geometric patterns.* — ~ally /kli/ *adv*

**geometric pro-gres-sion** /,..... ' / also **geometrical progression** /,..... ' / — *n* a set of numbers in order, in which each is multiplied by a fixed number to produce the next (as in 1, 2, 4, 8, 16, ...) — compare ARITHMETIC PROGRESSION

**ge-om-e-try** /dʒi'ɒmɪtri/ -'æm-/ *n* [U] the study in MATHEMATICS of the angles and shapes formed by the relationships of lines, surfaces, and solids in space

**ge-o-phys-ics** /,dʒi:əʊ'fɪzɪks/ *n* [U] the study of the movements and activities of parts of the Earth, including the sea bed — **-ical** /,dʒi:əʊ'fɪzɪkəl/ *adj*

**ge-o-pol-i-tics** /,dʒi:əʊ'pɒlɪtɪks/ -'pɑ:/ *n* [U] the study of the effect of a country's position, population, etc., on its politics — **-tical** /,dʒi:əʊpə'lɪtɪkəl/ *adj*

**Geor-die** /'dʒɔ:di/ 'dʒɔ:r-/ *n BrE infml, sometimes derog* 1 [C] a name used for someone, esp. a man, from Tyneside in NE England: *He's a Geordie.* 2 [U] a way of speaking typical of people from Tyneside — **Geordie** *adj*

**George I** /,dʒɔ:dʒ ðə 'fɜ:st/ 'dʒɔ:rdʒ ðə 'fɜ:rst/, **King** (1660–1727) King of Great Britain and Ireland from 1714 to 1727 but he could not speak English and was very unpopular, spending most of his time in Germany. His lack of interest in government led to Britain having its first PRIME MINISTER

**George II** /,dʒɔ:dʒ ðə 'sekənd/ 'dʒɔ:rdʒ/, **King** (1683–1760) King of Great Britain and Ireland from 1727 to 1760. He was the last king to lead his men personally in battle.

**George III** /,dʒɔ:dʒ ðə 'θɜ:d/ 'dʒɔ:rdʒ ðə 'θɜ:rd/, **King** (1738–1820) King of Great Britain and Ireland from 1760 to 1820. He is remembered for having been INSANE.

**George IV** /,dʒɔ:dʒ ðə 'fɔ:θ/ 'dʒɔ:rdʒ ðə 'fɔ:rθ/, **King** (1762–1830) King of Great Britain and Ireland from 1820 to 1830. He acted against a STRICT education by marrying first a Catholic WIDOW (which is not thought acceptable by the royal family) and secondly a princess whom he later tried to DIVORCE. Before he became king, he ruled as Prince Regent because his father, George III, was INSANE.

**George V** /,dʒɔ:dʒ ðə 'fɪfθ/ 'dʒɔ:rdʒ/, **King** (1865–1936) King of Great Britain and Ireland, and the British Commonwealth from 1910 to 1936. In 1917 he stopped using German titles for his family, and the name of the royal

house was changed from Saxe-Coburg-Gotha (known as Brunswick or Hanover) to Windsor.

**George VI** /,dʒɔ:dʒ ðə 'sɪksθ/ 'dʒɔ:rdʒ/, **King** (1895–1952) King of Great Britain, Ireland, and the British Commonwealth from 1936 to 1952. He married Lady Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon (the Queen Mother) in 1923 and they had two children, Queen Elizabeth II and Princess Margaret.

**George Cross** /,..... ' / [the] an honour given to British people not in the armed forces who do something extremely brave, e.g. saving someone else's life at great danger to themselves. It is given very rarely and thought to be a sign of great respect and admiration.

**George Med-al** /,..... ' / [the] an honour in the form of a red RIBBON with five blue STRIPES. It is given for similar acts of bravery as the George Cross but is not such a high honour.

**George, Saint** see SAINT GEORGE

**George-town** /'dʒɔ:dʒtaʊn/ 'dʒɔ:rdʒ/ 1 a wealthy shopping and living area of Washington DC, also known for its university 2 the capital city of Guyana, at the mouth of the Demerara river on the Atlantic ocean 3 town and capital of the Cayman Islands

**Geor-gia** /'dʒɔ:dʒə/ 'dʒɔ:r-/ *written abbrev.: GA* — 1 a state in the SE of the US, named after King George II of Britain. It was one of the 13 original colonies (COLONY) — see colour map on pages 1374–5 2 a country in SE Europe bordered on the W by the Black Sea, to the S by Turkey, Armenia, and Azerbaijan, and to the N by Russia; capital Tblisi; population 5,449,000 (1989)

**Georg-ian** /'dʒɔ:dʒən, -dʒiən/ 'dʒɔ:rdʒən/ *adj* 1 of the country of Georgia, in the Caucasus 2 (in the style) of the period of rule of the British kings George the First, Second, and Third, esp. from 1714 to 1811. Georgian buildings are considered to be very attractive, and are often built in red brick with white stone decoration. — see colour picture on page 227 3 of or being English poetry of the time of King George the Fifth, esp. from 1912 to 1922

**Georgie Por-gie** /,dʒɔ:dʒi 'pɔ:dʒi/ 'dʒɔ:rdʒi 'pɔ:r-/ a little boy in a NURSERY RHYME (=an old song or poem for children):

~ Georgie Porgie pudding and pie,  
Kissed the girls and made them cry.  
When the boys came out to play,  
Georgie Porgie ran away.

**ge-o-sta-tion-ar-y** /,dʒi:əʊ'steɪʃənəri/ -eri/ also **ge-o-syn-chro-nous** /,dʒi:əʊ'sɪŋkrənəs/ — *adj* of or being a spacecraft or SATELLITE that goes round the Earth at the same speed as the Earth moves, so that it always stays above the same place on the Earth

**geo-ther-mal** /,dʒi:əʊ'θɜ:məl/ -zɜ:r-/ *adj* of the heat found deep inside the earth: *a geothermal spring*

**Gep-hardt** /'gɜphɑ:t/ -hɑ:rt/, **Richard** (1941– ) a US CONGRESSMAN who became MAJORITY LEADER of the House of Representatives in 1989

**ge-ra-ni-um** /dʒə'reɪniəm/ *n* any of many closely related plants with red, pink, or white flowers and round leaves that are often grown in gardens or in pots in houses

**ger-bil** /'dʒɜ:bəl/ 'dʒɜ:r-/ *n* a small animal that lives in deserts and has long back legs on which it jumps. They are sometimes kept as pets, esp. by children.

**Gere** /gɪə/, **Richard** (1949– ) an American actor known esp. for his part in the films *American Gigolo* and *Pretty Woman* — see colour picture on page 228

**ger-i-at-ric** /,dʒeri'ætrɪk/ *adj* 1 [A no comp.] of or for geriatrics: *a geriatric hospital* 2 *derog* very old and unable to work properly: *the country's geriatric leadership*

**ger-i-a-tri-cian** /,dʒeri'ætrɪʃən/ *n* a doctor who specializes in geriatrics

**ger-i-at-rics** /,dʒeri'ætrɪks/ *n* [U] the medical treatment and care of old people — compare GERONTOLOGY

**Ger-i-tol** /'dʒerɪtɒl/ -tɑ:l/ *n* [U] *tdmk* a PATENT MEDICINE sold in the US which contains a lot of iron; it is usually taken by older people: *the Geritol generation/set* (=old people)

**germ** /dʒɜ:m/ 'dʒɜ:rm/ *n* 1 [C] a disease-producing bacterium; MICROBE: *This disinfectant kills all known household germs.* 2 [the+of] something that may develop into something larger or more important: *It's just the germ of an idea, but I think we might make something of it.* — see also WHEAT GERM



**Ger-man** /'dʒɜːmən||'dʒɜːr-/ *n* 1 [C] a person who comes from or whose parents come from Germany 2 [U] the language of Germany, Austria, and large parts of Switzerland —**German** *adj*

**ger-mane** /dʒɜː'meɪn||dʒɜːr-/ *adj* [(to)] *fml* (of ideas, remarks, etc.) suitably connected with something; **RELEVANT**: *He makes some interesting points, but they are not really germane to the argument.*

**Ger-man-ic** /dʒɜː'mænik||dʒɜːr-/ *adj* 1 (of style, appearance, etc.) of or typical of Germany or the Germans 2 of the language family that includes German, Dutch, Swedish, English, etc.

**German mea-sles** /,ɪ.. 'ɪ.. / also **rubella** *med*— *n* [U] an infectious disease in which red spots appear on the body for a short time. It may damage unborn children if caught by their mothers when **PREGNANT**.

**German shep-herd** /,ɪ.. 'ɪ.. / *n* *esp. AmE* for **ALSATIAN** —see picture at **DOG**

**German U-ni-fi-ca-tion** /,ɪ.. ...'ɪ.. / the uniting of East and West Germany in 1990 after they had been separated since 1945. This followed the opening of the Berlin Wall in 1989 and then the **COLLAPSE** of the East German government.

**Ger-man-y** /'dʒɜːməni||'dʒɜːr-/ a country in central Europe, divided from 1945 until 1990 into West Germany and East Germany; capital Berlin; population 78,620,000 (1990) — see also **BERLIN WALL**

**germ cell** /'ɪ.. / *n* a small part or cell of a living thing that can grow into a new plant, animal, etc.

**ger-mi-cide** /'dʒɜːmɪsaɪd||'dʒɜːr-/ *n* [C;U] a substance in liquid or powder form which kills germs

**ger-mi-nate** /'dʒɜːmɪneɪt||'dʒɜːr-/ *v* [I;T] to start or cause (a seed) to start growing: *Heat and moisture will germinate the seeds.* | (fig.) *I don't know how the idea first germinated in my mind.* —**nation** /,dʒɜːmɪ'neɪʃən||,dʒɜːr-/ *n* [U]

**germ war-fare** /,ɪ.. 'ɪ.. / *n* [U] the use of germs to spread disease in war, not allowed by international agreement

**Ge-ro-n-imo** /dʒɜː'rɒnɪməʊ||-'rɑː-/ 1 (1829–1909) an Apache Indian chief who fought Americans coming on to land belonging to his tribe in Arizona and New Mexico. When he was caught he was taken to Oklahoma, where he became a farmer and wrote the story of his life. 2 a cry used by American **PARATROOPERS**, and by children copying them in games, *esp.* when jumping off a high place

**ger-on-tol-o-gy** /,dʒerɒn'tɒlədʒi||,dʒerən'taː-/ *n* [U] the scientific study of old age, its changes in the body, the effects of these, etc. —compare **GERIATRICS**

**ger-ry-man-der** /'dʒerɪmændəʳ, 'dʒeri'mændəʳ/ *v* [I;T] *derog* to divide (an area) for election purposes so as to give one group or party an unfair advantage over others

**Ger-shwin** /'gɜːʃwɪn||'gɜːr-/ **George** (1898–1937) an American **COMPOSER** known *esp.* for his **OPERA** *Porgy and Bess* and his **JAZZ** music such as *Rhapsody in Blue*. His brother **Ira Gershwin** (1896–1983) wrote the words for many of his popular songs.

**ger-und** /'dʒerənd/ *n* a **VERBAL NOUN**

**ge-stalt** /gə'ʃtɑːlt/ *n* *tech* a whole which is different from all its parts put together and has qualities that are not present in any of its parts: **Gestalt psychology** is *esp.* concerned with patterns of experience as wholes.

**ge-sta-po** /ge'stɑːpəʊ/ *n* -**pos** [C+*sing./pl.* *v*] (*often cap.*) a secret police force using cruel methods, *esp.* the secret police of the Nazi period in Germany in the 1930s and 1940s

**ges-ta-tion** /dʒe'steɪʃən/ *n* 1 [U] *tech* the carrying of a child or young animal inside the mother's body before birth 2 [S] also **gestation period** /-ɪ.., .../— a *tech* the time during which this happens **b** the time of development of a thought or idea, before it is made known

**ges-tic-u-late** /dʒe'stɪkjʊleɪt/ *v* [I] to make *esp.* rapid or excited movements of the hands and arms to express something, *usu.* while speaking —**lation** /dʒe'stɪkjʊ'leɪʃən/ *n* [C;U] : *angry gesticulations*

**ges-ture** 1 /'dʒestʃəʳ/ *n* 1 [C;U] (an example of) the use of movement of the body, *esp.* of the hands, to express a certain meaning: *She shrugged her shoulders in a gesture of impatience.* | *He made an angry gesture.* | *English people do not use as much gesture as Italians.* 2 [C] an action which is done to show one's feelings or intentions: *We invited our new neighbours to dinner as a gesture of*

*friendship.* | *Their offer to renew the peace talks was a conciliatory gesture.*

**gesture** 2 *v* [I+*adv/prep*; T+*obj+adv/prep*] to call or direct with a movement of the body: *She gestured to the waiter to bring some more coffee.* | *He gestured me over with a movement of his head.*

**ge-sund-heit** /gə'zundhaɪt/ *interj* *AmE* used to wish good health to someone who has just sneezed (**SNEEZE**)

**get** /get/ *v* **got** /gɒt||gɑːt/, **got** *esp. BrE* || **gotten** /'gɒtn||'gɑːtn/ *AmE*, **present participle** **getting** ■ to receive or obtain something 1 [T *no pass.*] to receive or experience: *I got a letter today.* | *I got a shock when I looked at the electricity bill.* | *Unless you improve your work, you'll get the sack.* (=be dismissed) | *This part of the country doesn't get much rain.* | *One of the advantages of teaching is that you get long holidays.* | *I get the impression that they weren't very interested.* | *You won't get much* (=much money) *for that old piano.* | *He got five years* (=in prison) *for smuggling diamonds.* 2 [T (for)] to obtain; begin to have: *You'll have to get her permission before you do that.* | *I didn't get a good look at it.* | *I'm afraid she's getting a reputation for careless work.* | *Where did you get* (=buy) *those new shoes?* [+*obj(i)+obj(d)*] *Will you get this book for me/get me this book from the library?* | *What did she get you for your birthday?* 3 [T *no pass.*] to catch (an illness): *I got flu twice last year.* | *I always get a headache if I drink too much.* ■ shows a change in position: to move or be moved 4 to catch (a bus, train, etc.): *We got the six o'clock(train) from London.* 5 [I+*adv/prep*; T+*obj+adv/prep*] to (cause to) come, go, or move: "Get out (of my house)!" he shouted. | *I got into the car.* | *He got off his bike.* | *They got onto the plane at Cairo.* | *Where has my pen got to?* (=I can't find it) | *It's late; I must be getting (back) home.* | *My feet are so swollen I can't get my boots on/off.* | *I've got so fat that I can't get into my jeans.* | *We finally got the box through the hole.* | *Get that cat out of the house before mother sees it!* | *I managed to get these watches through customs without being questioned.* | (fig.) *He gets into a terrible temper if you contradict him.* | (fig.) *I finally succeeded in getting (off) to sleep at midnight.* | (fig.) *If you tell the teacher about it you'll get me into dreadful trouble.* 6 [I+*adv/prep*] to arrive at or reach a place or point: *We got to Paris at 8 o'clock.* | *When did you get here?* | *We got home very late.* | *What time does the train get into Edinburgh?* | "How far have you got with your book?" "I've got up to the last chapter." | *We're getting nowhere with this plan; we'll have to try something else.* 7 [T] to bring from one place to another; **FETCH** or collect: *I'm just going to get the children from school.* ■ shows a change in state 8 [L] to become: [+*adj*] *The food's getting cold.* | *They must have got lost.* | *I want to plant the roses before it gets dark.* | *My cat's getting too old to catch any mice.* | *She's getting worried about her exams.* | *They've just got married.* | *He's getting better.* (=after an illness) | "Where's David?" "He's upstairs getting ready to go out." | *It gets really cold here in the wintertime.* | *You'll soon get used to your new job.* [+*v-ing*] *Let's get going.* | *Our report is late; we must get going/moving/weaving.* (=start work on it) 9 [L+v-ed] (used like the **PASSIVE**) to be: *His finger got trapped in the door.* | *If you go there alone after dark you might get attacked and robbed.* 10 [T] to bring into or cause to be in a certain state: [+*obj+adj*] *I'll get the children ready for school.* | *Let me get this clear: is she married or not?* | *He got all the answers wrong.* | *This cold weather is really getting me down.* (=making me unhappy) | *I'm so disorganized — I really must get myself together.* [+*obj+v-ed*] *I got the work finished just in time.* | *I must get this radio mended.* 11 [T] to cause (to do or be): [+*obj+to-v*] *I got him to help me when I moved the furniture.* | *I can't get the car to start.* [+*obj+v-ing*] *We'll get the party going with some music.* | *I got the radio working again by twiddling with some wires.* 12 [I+*to-v*] **a** to do something gradually or with the passing of time: *He's getting to be an old man now.* | *When you get to know him you'll find he's quite nice.* **b** to have it happen that one does something, by chance or permission: *If I get to see him I'll ask him about it.* | *She never gets to drive the car.* ■ other meanings 13 [T] to prepare (a meal): *I'm in the middle of getting (the) dinner.* [+*obj(i)+obj(d)*] *Will you get the children their supper tonight?* 14 [T] to hear: *I didn't quite get what you said; would you speak a little louder?* 15 [T] to understand: *I don't get it; why did he do that?* | *I try to make him understand that I'm not interested in him, but he never*



**gets the message.** | *Now don't get me wrong; I never meant to imply I didn't like him.* **16** [T] to succeed in making a telephone call to, or receive a telephone call or a radio or television signal from: *I wanted to speak to the managing director, but I got the office boy.* | *"The phone's ringing."* *"I'll get it."* | *Can you get Peking on your radio?* | *I've been ringing his office all day, but I can't get hold of him.* [+obj(i)+obj(d)] **Get me New York please, operator.** | *Sorry, you've got the wrong number.* **17** [T no pass.] *infml* to annoy: *It really gets me when he says those stupid things.* **18** [T] *infml* a [(for)] to punish or harm (someone) in return for harm they have done to you: *I'll get you for that, you swine!* **b** to catch or attack: *If they try to escape from the island, the crocodiles will get them.* **c** to hit or wound: *I got the minister on the ear with a potato.* | *Where did the bullet get you?* **19** [T no pass.] *infml* to defeat or confuse (someone): *"What's the square root of three?" "I don't know; you've got me there."* ■ **fixed phrases** **20** **get you/him/her, etc.** *sl* (used as an expression of disapproval) look at or listen to you/him/her, etc.: *Get her! Who does she think she is, trying to give us orders like that?* **21** **have got to have:** *I've got a dog called Fido.* | *Have you got the time, please?* **22** **you get** *infml* there is/are: *In winter you get strong winds here.* —see also **get one's own back** (OWN<sup>1</sup>) ■ **phrasal verbs**

**get about/around** *phr v* [I] **1** to move or travel from place to place: *He's getting old and he doesn't get about much any more.* | *She gets about quite a lot, working for an international company.* **2** also **get round** *BrE*— (of news, etc.) to spread; *CIRCULATE:* *The news of their secret wedding soon got about.*

**get across** *phr v* [I;T (=get sthg. ↔ across) (to)] to (cause to) be understood or accepted, esp. by a large group: *Our teacher is clever, but not very good at getting his ideas across (to us).* | *The message got across at last.*

**get along** *phr v* [I] **1** (of a person) to continue, often in spite of difficulties; manage: *He didn't even offer to help us, but I'm sure we can get along quite well without him.* **2** to advance; **GET ON:** *How's the work getting along?* **3** [(with)] to form or have a friendly relationship; **GET ON:** *Do you get along well with your aunt?* **4** (of a person) to leave: *I must be getting along now; it's late.* **5** **Get along with you!** *infml* I don't believe you! **b** *BrE b AmE* leave now!

**get around** *phr v* **1** [I] to **GET about** **2** [T] (get around sthg.) also **get round**— to avoid or find a way to deal with (something) to one's advantage; *CIRCUMVENT:* *If you're clever, you can sometimes get around the tax laws.*

**get around/round to sthg.** *phr v* [T] to find time for; do at last: *I've been meaning to see that film for ages, and I finally got around to it last week.* [+v-ing] *After a long delay, he got around to writing the letter.*

**get at sbdy./sthg.** *phr v* [T] **1** to reach or find: *Put the food where the cat can't get at it.* | *Let's hope this public enquiry can get at the truth.* | *I'm dying to get at that fudge cake.* **2** [no pass.; in progressive forms] to suggest indirectly; *IMPLY:* *What exactly is he getting at when he says I might be better suited to a different job?* | *I don't see what you're getting at.* (=I don't understand your meaning) **3** [often pass.] *infml*, esp. *BrE* to (try to) influence unfairly by offers of money: *Some of the jurors had been got at.* **4** *BrE* [usu. in progressive forms] *infml* to say unkind things to, esp. repeatedly: *Stop getting at me!*

**get away** *phr v* [I] **1** to succeed in leaving: *I'm sorry I'm late; I was in a meeting and couldn't get away.* **2** to escape, esp. from the scene of a crime or from being caught: *The thieves got away (with all our money).* | *I caught a really big fish but it got away.* —see also **GETAWAY** **3** **one can't get away from also there's no getting away from**— one has to admit the truth of (something, esp. something unpleasant): *You can't get away from the fact that it would cost a lot of money.*

**get away with sthg.** *phr v* [T] **1** to do (something wrong) without being caught or punished: *Don't try to deceive the taxman; you'll never get away with it.* [+v-ing] *How did he get away with cheating?* **2** **get away with murder** *infml* to escape punishment for something wrong that you have done: *His mother's much too soft; she lets him get away with murder.*

**get back** *phr v* **1** [I] to return, esp. to one's home: *It's late; we must be getting back.* | *I heard you were away. When did you get back?* | *I wish you would get back to basics* (=return to important matters) *and stop all this talk about winning the lottery.* **2** [I (IN)] to return to political power after having lost it: *Will the Labour Party*

*get back in at the next election?* **3** [I (FROM)] stand away from: *Get back! There's a train coming.* | *Please get back from the road.* **4** [T] (get sthg. ↔ back) to obtain again after loss or separation: *He got his old job back.*

**get back at sbdy.** *phr v* [T] *infml* to punish (someone) in return for a wrong done to oneself: *I'll get back at him one day!*

**get back to sbdy.** *phr v* [T] to speak or write to again later: *I can't give you a definite answer now, but I'll get back to you about it.*

**get behind** *phr v* [I (with)] to fail to produce something at the proper time: *They've got behind with their rent again.*

**-get by** *phr v* [I] **1** to have enough money for one's needs or way of life: *We can't get by on my salary alone.* **2** to be good enough but not very good; be acceptable: *Your work will get by, but try to improve it.*

**get down** *phr v* **1** [I] *AmE infml* to enjoy oneself, esp. at a party or with others: *We're really going to get down on Saturday night.* **2** [T] (get sthg. ↔ down) to swallow, esp. with difficulty: *Try to get the medicine down.* **3** [T] (get sthg. ↔ down) to record in writing: *Get down every word she says.* **4** [T] (get sbdy. down) to cause to feel nervous, ill, or sad; *DEPRESS:* *This continual wet weather is getting me down.* **5** [I] (of a child) to leave the table after a meal: *Please may I get down?*

**get down to sthg.** *phr v* [T] to begin to give serious attention to: *It's hard to get down to work after a nice holiday.* [+v-ing] *I really must get down to filling in my tax form.* —see also **get down to brass tacks** (BRASS)

**get in** *phr v* **1** [I] to arrive: *The plane got in late.* | *We didn't get in (=home) until 3 o'clock in the morning.* **2** [I] to be elected to a position of political power: *She's running for Congress but I doubt if she'll get in.* **3** [T] (get sthg. ↔ in) to collect or buy a supply of: *The farmers are getting the crops in.* | *We'd better get in some more coal before the price goes up.* **4** [T] (get sbdy. ↔ in) to call to one's help, esp. in the house: *We'll have to get the plumber in.* **5** [T] (get sthg. ↔ in) to deliver to the proper place: *Can you get your essay in by next week?* **6** [I (at, on)] to take part in an activity: *It sounds like a very profitable enterprise; I'd like to get in on it.* **7** [I;T (=get sbdy. in)] to (cause to) be admitted to a place of education or a class, esp. after an examination or test: *He applied to do medicine at university but he didn't get in.* | *I couldn't get my best pupil in.* **8** [T] (get sthg. ↔ in) *BrE infml* to buy (a set of drinks for all the people one is with) in a bar

**get into** *phr v* [T no pass.] **1** (get into sbdy.) to influence or take control of (someone) so as to make them act strangely: *I don't know what's got into her lately; she's been behaving very oddly.* **2** (get (sbdy.) into sthg.) to put (oneself or someone else) into (a bad condition): *Don't get into a temper.* | *I'm sorry if I got you into trouble.* | *She got herself into a real state (=became very anxious) about her driving test.* **3** (get into sthg.) **a** to learn or become used to: *I'll soon get into the way of doing things.* | *to get into bad habits* **b** to develop a strong interest in: *I'm really getting into fitness since I joined the health club*

**get off** *phr v* **1** [I] to start a journey; leave: *I'd better be getting off now.* | *We have to get off early tomorrow.* **2** [I] *AmE infml* to have an ORGASM **3** [T] (get sthg. off) to send: *I'd like to get this letter off by the first post.* **4** [I;T (=get sbdy. ↔ off (sthg.))] to (cause to) escape punishment (for): *The man went to prison but the two boys got off (with a warning).* | *You'll need a good lawyer to get you off (that charge).* **5** [I;T (=get sbdy. off)] to (cause to) be able to fall asleep: *I'll come downstairs as soon as I've got the baby off (to sleep).* **6** [I;T (=get off sthg.) no pass.] to leave (work) with permission: *"What time do you get off work?" "I get off at 6 o'clock."* | *I got off early today.* **7** **tell someone where they (can) get off/where to get off** *infml* to tell someone how to behave, or esp. tell someone not to misbehave: *They tried to stop me going in, but I soon told them where they could get off — I've been a member of that club for years, you know.*

**get off on sthg.** *phr v* [T] *sl* to be excited by; enjoy: *I really got off on that music.*

**get off to sthg.** *phr v* [T no pass.] to make or have (a start of the stated type): *His performance got off to a bad start when he couldn't remember his first words.*

**get off with sbdy.** *phr v* [T] *infml*, esp. *BrE* to start a (sexual) relationship with: *She got off with him soon after the party started.*

**get on** *phr v* **1** [I] esp. *BrE* || **get along** *AmE* (of a



person or activity) to advance or develop, esp. in the stated way: *You'll have to pass your exams if you want to get on.* | *How is your work getting on?* | *Young Johnny isn't getting on very well at school.* **2** [I; in progressive forms] **a** (of time) to become late: *Time is getting on.* **b** (of a person) to become old: *Now grandfather's getting on a bit he doesn't go out so much.* **3** [I (with)] to continue, often after interruption: *I must be getting on.* | *Get on with your work!* **4** [I] to manage; **GET along**: *How will we get on without you?* **5** [I (with, TOGETHER)] esp. BrE || **get along** AmE to form or have a friendly relationship: *Do you get on well with your boss?* | *My brother and I have never really got on (together).* **6** **get it on** AmE sl to have sex: *"Let's get it on."* **7** **get on with it** infml hurry up: *Get on with it! We've got a train to catch.* **8** **Get on with you!** BrE infml I don't believe you!

**get on for** sthg. *phr v* [L+n; in progressive forms] esp. BrE to be almost reaching, in time, age, number, or distance; be nearly: *Grandfather is getting on for 80.* | *There were getting on for two thousand people there.*

**get onto** sbdy./sthg. *phr v* [T no pass.] **1** to speak or write to; **CONTACT**: *I'll get onto the director and see if he can help.* **2** to find out about deceit by (someone): *He was cheating his customers for years until the police got onto him.* **3** to be elected or appointed to: *My neighbour got onto the City Council.* **4** to begin to talk about or work at: *How did we get onto that subject?*

**get out** *phr v* **1** [I;T (=get sbdy. out)] to (cause to) escape: *One of the lions has got out (of the zoo).* | *The lawyer got his client out (=of police care) on bail.* **2** [I] (esp. of secret information) to become known; **LEAK out**: *I don't know how the news got out.* **3** [T] (get sthg. ↔ out) to produce or **PUBLISH**: *We hope to get the report out very soon.* **4** [T] (get sthg. ↔ out) to speak with difficulty: *He managed to get out a few words.*

**get out of** *phr v* [T] **1** (get (sbdy.) out of sthg.) to (cause to) avoid (a responsibility or duty): *I'll see if I can get you out of tonight's homework.* [+v-ing] *He tried to get out of helping me.* **2** (get sthg. out of sbdy.) to force or persuade (someone) to tell, give, pay, etc.: *The police finally got the truth out of her.* **3** (get sthg. out of sthg.) to gain from: *I can't understand why people smoke; what do they get out of it?* | *He seems to get a kick out of (=to enjoy) being nasty to her.*

**get over** *phr v* [T] **1** (get over sthg./sbdy.) to return to one's usual state of health, happiness, etc., after (a bad experience or a (sexual) relationship with a person): *He's just getting over an illness.* | *Sooner or later you'll get over the shock.* | *Her affair with Dick ended months ago, but she hasn't really got over him yet.* **2** [(WITH)] (get sthg. over) to do and reach the end of (usu. something necessary but unpleasant): *You'll be glad to get your operation over (with).* **3** [(to)] (get sthg. ↔ over) to make clear; cause to be understood; **GET across**: *I don't think you got it over to them that they can't miss any meetings.* **4** (get over sthg.) to find a way to deal with: *How shall we get over this difficulty?* **5** **I can't/couldn't get over** infml I am/was very surprised, amused, etc., by: *I couldn't get over his beard/him growing a beard!*

**get round** BrE || **get around** AmE *phr v* **1** [I] (of news, etc.) to spread; **GET about**: *The story soon got round.* **2** [T] (get round sthg.) to avoid; **GET around**: *They got round the immediate problem by borrowing a lot of money.* **3** [T] (get round sbdy.) to persuade (someone) to accept one's own way of thinking: *Father doesn't want to let us go, but I know I can get round him.*

**get round to** sthg. *phr v* [T] to **GET around to**

**get through** *phr v* **1** [I;T (=get sbdy./sthg. through (sthg.))] to (cause or help to) pass, pass through, or come successfully to the end of: *We were all delighted when we heard you'd got through (your exam).* | *Her mother's support got her through her depression.* | *The government managed to get the new law through (parliament) despite strong opposition.* **2** [T] (get through sthg.) to complete or use up the whole of; finish: *We got through a whole chicken at one sitting!* | *They won a million dollars, but they got through the whole lot in less than five years.* **3** [I (with)] esp. AmE to finish: *When you get through (with your work), let's go out.* **4** [I (to)] to reach someone, esp. by telephone: *I tried to telephone you but I couldn't get through.* | *I can't get through to Paris.* **5** [I;T (=get sthg. through) (to)] to (cause to) be understood by someone: *When he's in this strange mood I just can't get through to him.* [+that] *Her father has been trying to get it through*

*to her that she must work harder if she wants to pass the exam.*

**get together** *phr v* **1** [I (with)] to have a meeting or party: *When can we get together for a drink?* —see also **GET-TOGETHER** **2** **get it together** AmE infml to be in control of (a particular job, situation, or one's life) and be doing everything reasonably well: *"Come on, Mark, get it together—we leave in half an hour".* | *I don't know what's wrong with me these days; I just can't seem to get it together.*

**get up** *phr v* **1** [I;T (=get sbdy. up)] to (cause to) rise from bed in the morning: *What time do you normally get up?* | *I'm sorry to phone so early; did I get you up?* | *I woke up at six, but I didn't get up till an hour later.* **2** [I] to rise to one's feet; stand up: *Everyone got up when the judge came in.* **3** [I] BrE (of a wind, fire, etc.) to start and increase **4** [T] (get sthg. ↔ up) to arrange or bring together; **ORGANIZE**: *I'm getting up a little group to visit the theatre; would you like to come along?* **5** [T (as)] (get sbdy. up) BrE || (do sbdy. up) AmE to decorate or change the appearance of in the stated way: *She got herself up as a Roman soldier for the school play.* —see also **GETUP** **6** [T] (get sthg. ↔ up) BrE old-fash to study or gain knowledge of **7** **get up speed/steam** to increase the amount of speed or steam (in an engine) **8** **get it up** AmE sl taboo to have an **ERECTION** (3)

**get up to** sthg. *phr v* [T no pass.] infml to do (esp. something bad): *The children are very quiet; I wonder what they're getting up to.*

**get-a-way** /'getəweɪ/ *n* [S] infml an escape made after a crime: *The burglar made his getaway across the roof.* | *As the thieves ran out of the bank the getaway car was waiting with its engine running.* —compare **DRIVEAWAY CAR** —see also **GET away** (2)

**Geth-sem-a-ne** /geθ'seməni/ a garden where Jesus went with his followers, and where he was betrayed (**BETRAY**) by one of them, Judas, and taken prisoner by the Romans

**get-to-geth-er** /'getəgethə/ *n* a friendly informal meeting for enjoyment: *When you're next in town we must have a little get-together.* —see also **GET together**

**Get-ty** /'geti/, **J. Paul** (1892–1976) an American businessman and owner of an oil company who became very rich and set up the Getty Museum in California where he kept his very valuable art collection

**Get-tys-burg Ad-dress** /'getɪzbɜːg ə'dres/ [-bɜːrg-/ [the] a famous speech made by Abraham Lincoln in 1863 in the town of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. He expressed his grief for the soldiers killed in the American Civil War, and talked about the principles that they died for, in words that are often remembered by Americans: *Four score and seven years ago, our fathers brought forth on this continent a new nation, conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal... We here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain; that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom; and that government of the people, by the people, and for the people shall not perish from the earth.*

**get-up** /'getʌp/ *n* infml a set of clothes, esp. unusual clothes: *She looks ridiculous in that getup.* —see also **GET up** (5)

**get-up-and-go** /'getʌpən'dʒo/ *n* [U] infml apprec a forceful active quality of mind; determined desire to get things done

**geyser** /'giːzə/ || 'gaɪ-/ *n* **1** a natural spring of hot water which from time to time rises suddenly into the air from the earth **2** BrE an apparatus which is used in kitchens, bathrooms, etc., for heating water by gas

**Gha-na** /'ga:nə/ a country in W Africa, formerly British and known as the **Gold Coast** and now part of the British Commonwealth; capital Accra; population 14,566,000 (1989) **Ghanaian** /gɑː'neɪən/ *adj, n*

**ghast-ly** /'gɑːstli/ || 'gæstli/ *adj* **1** infml extremely bad or unpleasant; terrible: *We had a ghastly holiday; it rained all the time.* | *a ghastly mistake* **2** causing very great fear or dislike: *a ghastly crime* **3** [F] (of a person) very pale and ill-looking: *You look ghastly; what's wrong with you?* —**liness** *n* [U]

**ghat**, **ghaut** /gɔːt/ *n* IndE & PakE **1** a narrow way between mountains; **PASS** **2** [usu. pl.] a mountain **3** a set of steps, as from a house or temple, leading down to a river or lake **4** a place where dead bodies are ceremonially burnt



**ghee**, **ghi** /gi:/ *n* [U] *IndE & PakE* melted butter made from COW'S or BUFFALO'S milk, used in Indian cooking

**gher-kin** /'gɜ:kɪn/ *n* a small green vegetable (a type of CUCUMBER) which is usually eaten after being kept in VINEGAR

**ghet-to** /'getəʊ/ *n* -tos or -toes **1** a part of a city in which a group of people live who are poor and/or are not accepted as full citizens — compare SLUM **2** a part of a city where people mostly of one race, class or group live: *a gay/Hispanic ghetto*

#### ghetto blaster



**ghetto blast-er** /'... ,.../ also **boom box** *AmE— n sl*, often *derog* a large TAPE RECORDER that can be carried around, and is often played very loudly in public places

#### ghost



**ghost**<sup>1</sup> /gəʊst/ *n* **1** (the spirit of) a dead person who appears again: *Do you believe in ghosts?* | *He looked so terrified I thought he'd seen a ghost.*

► **CULTURAL NOTE** There are two main STEREOTYPES of ghosts. The first is of a faint, shapeless figure with empty, round eyes which frightens people by making a strange wailing (WAIL) sound. It floats through the air and can go through walls and closed doors. Children often wear a white sheet over their head to dress up as this kind of ghost. The second STEREOTYPE is of a young man or woman in Elizabethan clothes. They have had their head cut off and carry it around under their arm. They may have chains round their arms or legs, which make a clanking (CLANK) sound as they walk. ◀

**2** also **ghost-writ-er** /'gəʊst,raɪtə/ — someone who writes a book, article, etc., for someone else, who then often pretends it is their own work **3** a second, fainter image, esp. on a television picture **4** **give up the ghost** *infml* to die: (fig.) *My old car's finally given up the ghost.* **5** **the ghost of a** *infml* the slightest: *You haven't got the ghost of a chance of getting the job.* **6** **the ghost of Christmas past** *quote* a character in Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* who comes to show Scrooge scenes from his past. The phrase is sometimes changed and used in other writing now: *the ghost of companies past*

**ghost**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T] also **ghost-write** /'gəʊst-raɪt/ — to write (something) as a GHOST<sup>1</sup> (2): *A journalist ghosted the general's memoirs.*

**Ghost-bust-ers** /'gəʊstbʌstəz/ *-ərz/* either of two popular films of the 1980s about an imaginary firm in New York which tries to rid buildings of ghosts

**ghost-ly** /'gəʊstli/ *adj* like a ghost, esp. in having a faint or uncertain colour and shape: *I saw a ghostly light ahead of me in the darkness.* — **liness** *n* [U]

**ghost town** /'... / *n* an empty town, esp. one that was once

busy because people came to find gold or other precious substances, and left when there was no more to be found

**ghoul** /gu:l/ *n* **1** a spirit which, in the stories told in some Eastern countries, takes bodies from graves to eat them **2** a person who delights in (thoughts of) dead bodies and other unpleasant things — *~ish adj*: *Some people take a ghoulish delight in visiting the scenes of road accidents.* — *~ishness n* [U]

**GHQ** /,dʒi: eɪtʃ 'kju:/ *abbrev. for*: General Headquarters; the place from which a large esp. military operation is controlled

**-ghyll** /gɪl/ *n* *NW EngE* for GORGE (1)

**GI** /,dʒi: 'aɪ/ *n* **GI's or GIs** a soldier in the American army, esp. during the Second World War

► **CULTURAL NOTE** In Britain in the Second World War GIs were seen as attractive and exciting by people, esp. women, partly because they could provide things which were not easily available in Britain at that time, such as certain types of clothes and food, and many men did not like their presence for that reason. Some women married American soldiers and went to live in the US, becoming known as **GI brides**. — see also **GI BILL**, **GI JOE** ◀

**gi-ant**<sup>1</sup> /'dʒaɪənt/ *n* **1** **gi-ant-ess** /-tes/ *fem.* — (in children's stories) a creature in the form of an extremely tall strong man, esp. one who is cruel to humans **2** a man who is much bigger than is usual **3** a person of great ability: *Shakespeare is a giant among writers.* | *sporting giants of the past* — see also **RED GIANT** **4** a very large company: *Honda is a giant in the international market.*

**giant**<sup>2</sup> *adj* [A] extremely large: *The giant (size) packet gives you more for less money!* | *a giant US electronics corporation*

**giant kil-ler** /'... ,.../ *n* *esp. BrE* a person, sports team, etc., that defeats a much stronger opponent — see also **JACK AND THE BEANSTALK**

**giant pan-da** /,... '.../ also **panda** — *n* a large bear-like animal from China that has black and white fur

**Giant's Cause-way** /,... '.../ [*the*] a number of unusually shaped rocks on the coast of Northern Ireland, formed by a flow of LAVA into the sea. A story says that it was once used as a bridge for giants crossing between Ireland and Scotland.

**gib-ber** /'dʒɪbər/ *BrE* || **jabber** *AmE— v* [I] to talk very fast, esp. because of fear or shock, in a way that is meaningless for the hearer: *What on earth are you gibbering about? Pull yourself together and speak calmly!* | *a gibbering idiot*

**gib-ber-ish** /'dʒɪbərɪʃ/ *n* [U] sounds, talk, or writing that is meaningless or hard to understand: *This essay is pure gibberish; you'll get no marks for it at all.*

**gib-bet** /'dʒɪbɪt/ *n* a wooden post with another piece at right angles at the top, from which in former times criminals were hanged by the neck until dead

**gib-bon** /'gɪbən/ *n* an animal like a monkey with no tail and long arms, which lives in trees in Asia and is the smallest APE

**gib-bous** /'gɪbəs/ *adj tech* (of the moon) having the bright part filling more than half a circle

**gibe**, **jibe** /dʒaɪb/ *n* [(about, at)] a remark which makes someone look foolish, or points out someone's faults: *She finished her speech with a gibe at the prime minister.* — **gibe at** *phr v* [T]

**GI Bill** /,dʒi: 'aɪ 'bɪl/ [*the*] a law passed in the US in 1944 which is still effective. It provides for education and other BENEFITS for people who have served in the armed forces: *go to college on the GI Bill*

**gib-lets** /'dʒɪblɪts/ *n* [P] the parts of a bird, such as the heart and LIVER, which are taken out before the bird is cooked, but may themselves be cooked and eaten

**Gi-bral-tar** /dʒɪ'brɔ:ltə/ a town and port on the Rock of Gibraltar on the S coast of Spain. It is a British possession which formerly belonged to Spain, and is the subject of disagreement between Britain and Spain because both countries think that it should belong to them.

► **CULTURAL NOTE** Many tourists visit Gibraltar, and one attraction is the group of monkeys which live there, known as Barbary APES. A famous story says that when they leave the Rock, the British will also leave. ◀

— **-tarian** /,dʒɪbrɔ:ltə'riən/ *n, adj*



**Gib-son** /'gɪbsən/, **Mel** /mel/ (1956– ) an Australian actor whose films include *The Year of Living Dangerously* and *Hamlet*

**gid-dy** /'gɪdi/ *adj* 1 feeling unsteady, usu. in an unpleasant way, as though everything is moving round oneself and/or as though one is falling; *DIZZY: The children enjoyed twirling round and round, but I felt giddy just watching them.* 2 [A] causing a feeling of unsteady movement and/or falling: *We looked down from a giddy height.* 3 *infml*, *BrE old-fash* or *AmE* not serious; too interested in amusement; *FRIVOLOUS* — **dily** *adv*: *He reeled giddily across the room.* — **diness** *n* [U]: *a sudden attack of giddiness*

**giddy up** /,ɪ.. / (used as a command to a horse) Go faster!

**Gid-e-on Bi-ble** /,gɪdiən 'baɪbəl/ *n* a (copy of a) Bible placed in a hotel room or somewhere similar, by a member of the **Gideons**, a Christian organization, in the hope that people will read it

**Giel-gud** /'gi:lɡud/, **Sir John** (1904– ) an English actor and director who has played many parts from Shakespeare's plays, as well as making film appearances, e.g. in *Arthur* in 1981 when he won an Oscar

**gift** /ɡɪft/ *n* 1 something which is given willingly; a present: *Christmas gifts* | *My grandmother made me a gift of her silver cutlery.* | *With each packet of soap powder you get a free gift of a plastic flower.* | *a gift shop* (=that sells things suitable to be given as presents) | *That legacy of £5000 was a gift from the Gods.* (=something very desirable got by lucky chance) | (fig.) *The last question in my exam paper was a gift.* (=very easy) — see also **GOD'S GIFT** 2 [(for)] a natural ability to do something; **TALENT**: *She has a gift for music/for learning languages.* | *Her tactfulness is a remarkable gift.* — see also **GIFTED** 3 [usu. *sing.*] *BrE infml* something obtained easily or cheaply: *At £2 it's a gift!* 4 **gift of the gab** *infml* the ability to speak well continuously, and esp. to persuade people 5 **in someone's gift** *BrE fml* in someone's power to give, to whoever they want: *The chairmanship of this committee is in the gift of the minister/in the minister's gift.*

**gift cer-tif-i-cate** /'ɪ.. / *n* *AmE* for **GIFT TOKEN**

**gift-ed** /'ɡɪftɪd/ *adj* having one or more special abilities; **TALENTED**: *a very gifted musician*

**gifted child** /,ɪ.. / *n* a child that is generally very clever or clever in one particular subject: *a school for gifted children*

**gift horse** /'ɪ.. / *n* **Don't/Never look a gift horse in the mouth** *infml* Be grateful for something that is given to you, without asking questions about it or finding fault with it

**gift to-ken** /'ɪ.. / also **gift voucher** *BrE* || **gift certificate** *AmE*— *n* a gift card for a certain value that can be exchanged for an article in a shop: *My aunt gave me a £10 gift token for Christmas.*

**gift-wrap** /'ɪ.. / *v* -pp- [T] to wrap (esp. something intended as a present) to make it look attractive: *Some shops provide a gift-wrapping service.*

**gig**<sup>1</sup> /ɡɪɡ/ *n infml* 1 a performance by a musician or group of musicians playing modern popular music or **JAZZ**, e.g. at a concert or club: *The band played a final gig in Amsterdam before splitting up.* | *a fantastic gig* 2 an arrangement for such a performance; **BOOKING** — **gig** *v* -gg- [I]

**gig**<sup>2</sup> /ɡɪɡ/ *n* a small two-wheeled carriage pulled by one horse and used esp. in former times

**gig-a-byte** /'ɡɪɡəbaɪt/ *n* *tech* one **BILLION BYTES**: *new machines with 3 gigabytes of memory*

**gi-gan-tic** /dʒaɪ'ɡæntɪk/ *adj* extremely large in amount or size: *a gigantic building* | *The company has made gigantic losses this year, and will probably go out of business.* — **ally** /kli/ *adv*

**gig-gle**<sup>1</sup> /'ɡɪɡəl/ *v* [I] to laugh quietly in a silly childish uncontrolled way; often in a way which suggests that one is laughing about someone or something secret, which one finds amusing: *Stop giggling, girls; this is a serious matter.* | *a fit of hysterical giggling* — see **LAUGH (USAGE)**

**giggle**<sup>2</sup> *n* 1 [C] an act of giggling: *George has got the giggles again.* (=has a fit of giggling) 2 [S] *infml*, esp. *BrE* something that amuses; **PRANK**: *Wouldn't it be a giggle*

*to tie his shoelaces together while he isn't looking!* | *They only did it for a giggle.*

**gig-o-lo** /'ɜːɡələʊ, 'dʒɪ-/ *n* -los a man who is paid to be a woman's lover and companion

**GI Joe** /,dʒiː aɪ 'dʒəʊ/ *n* 1 *infml* an American soldier, esp. one in the Second World War 2 a **DOLL** (=child's toy in the shape of a person) that looks like a soldier, popular with American children

**Gil-bert and Sul-li-van** /,ɡɪlbət ənd 'sʌlɪvən||-bərt-/ two men, Sir William Gilbert and Sir Arthur Sullivan, who worked together during the second half of the 19th century on many **OPERETTAS** such as *HMS Pinafore*, *The Pirates of Penzance*, and *The Mikado*

**gild** /ɡɪld/ *v* [T] 1 to cover with a thin coat of gold or gold paint (**GILT**): *a gilded statue* | (fig.) *Sunshine gilded the rooftops.* 2 to give an attractive appearance to, often in a way intended to deceive 3 **gild the lily** to try to improve something that is already good enough, so spoiling the effect

**gill**<sup>1</sup> /ɡɪl/ *n* 1 an organ through which a fish breathes 2 **green/white about the gills** *infml* or *humor* having a pale sick-looking face as a result of fear, illness, etc.

**gill**<sup>2</sup> /dʒɪl/ *n* a measure of liquid

**Gil-les-pie** /ɡɪl'spi/, **Dizzy** (1917–93) an American **JAZZ TRUMPET** player who invented and played the style of **BEBOP** with Charlie Parker

**Gil-lette** /dʒɪ'let/ *n* *tdmk* a company which makes several different types of **RAZOR** and other equipment for shaving (**SHAVE** (1)) such as **SHAVING FOAM**

**gil-lie**, **gilly** /'ɡɪli/ *n* (in Scotland) a man who acts as a guide and helper to someone who is shooting or fishing for sport

**Gil-more** /'ɡɪlmɔːr/, **Gar-y** /'ɡæri/ (1940–1977) an American criminal remembered for demanding that his death sentence be carried out. He was shot by a **FIRING SQUAD**.

**gilt**<sup>1</sup> /ɡɪlt/ *n* 1 [U] shiny material, esp. gold, used as a thin covering: *silver gilt* | *The plates have a gilt edge.* 2 [C] *tech* a **GILT-EDGED SHARE**<sup>1</sup> (2) 3 **take the gilt off the gingerbread** *BrE infml* to take away the part that makes the whole attractive

**gilt**<sup>2</sup> *n* esp. *AmE* a young female pig

**gilt-edged** /,ɪ.. / *adj* (of **STOCKS**<sup>1</sup> (3) and **SHARES**<sup>1</sup> (2), esp. those sold by the government) paying a small rate of interest but unlikely to fail, and therefore considered safe

**gim-let** /'ɡɪmlɪt/ *n* a tool which is used to make holes in wood so that screws may enter easily: (fig.) *He has eyes like gimlets.* (=which look very hard and searchingly)

**gim-me** /'ɡɪmi/ *nonstandard* give me: *Gimme some bread, mister!*

**gim-mick** /'ɡɪmɪk/ *n infml*, often *derog* a trick or object which is used only to attract people's attention, esp. in an attempt to sell something: *The pretty girl on the cover of the book is just a sales gimmick.* — **y** *adj*: *Having bingo games in newspapers is just a gimmicky idea that won't last long.*

**gin**<sup>1</sup> /dʒɪn/ *n* [C;U] (a glass of) a colourless strong alcoholic drink made from grain and certain berries — see also **PINK GIN**, **GIN AND TONIC**

**gin**<sup>2</sup> also **gin trap** /'ɪ.. / *n* a trap for catching small animals or birds — see also **COTTON GIN**

**gin**<sup>3</sup> *n infml* for **GIN RUMMY**

**gin and ton-ic** /,ɪ.. / also **G & T**— *n* [C;U] a popular alcoholic drink served with ice and a **SLICE** of **LEMON**, thought of as a typical middle-class drink

**gin-ger**<sup>1</sup> /'dʒɪndʒə/ *n* [U] 1 (a plant with) a root with a very hot strong taste, which is used in cooking or covered with sugar and eaten as a sweet, etc.: *ground ginger* | *preserved ginger* | *crystallized ginger* 2 an orange-brown colour: *She has bright ginger hair.* 3 *infml* an active cheerful quality

**ginger**<sup>2</sup> *v*

**ginger** sthg. ↔ **up** *phr v* [T] to make more effective, exciting, or active: *We need some new young recruits to ginger up the company.*

**ginger ale** /,ɪ.. / *n* [C;U] (a glass of) a gassy non-alcoholic drink made with ginger and often mixed with other drinks

**ginger beer** /,ɪ.. / *n* [C;U] (a glass of) a gassy non-



alcoholic drink with a strong taste, made with ginger

**gin-ger-bread** /'dʒɪndʒəbred/ -dʒər- / *n* [U] a cake or BISCUIT with ginger in it: *She baked some gingerbread men.* (=biscuits in the shape of people)

**Gingerbread** a British organization which provides support and practical help for single parents and their children

## gingerbread man



**ginger group** /'..- / *n* [C+sing./pl. v] *BrE* a group of people, usu. within a political party, who try to urge the leaders of the party to take stronger action on a particular matter

**gin-ger-ly** /'dʒɪndʒəli/ -ər- / *adv, adj* (in a way that is) careful and controlled in movement so as not to cause harm: *I reached out gingerly to touch the snake.* | *She sat down in a rather gingerly fashion on the rickety old chair.*

**ginger nut** /'..- / *esp. BrE* || **gin-ger-snap** /'dʒɪndʒəsneɪp/ -ər- / *esp. AmE*— *n* a hard BISCUIT with ginger in it

**ging-ham** /'gɪŋəm/ *n* [U] cotton which is usu. woven with a pattern of squares and used for making clothes, tablecloths, etc. In Britain it is often used for making summer dresses for girls to wear to school.

**gin-gi-vi-tis** /'dʒɪndʒɪ'vaɪtɪs/ *n* [U] a medical condition in which the GUMS (=flesh out of which the teeth grow) are red, swollen, and painful

**gi-nor-mous** /dʒaɪ'noʊməs/ -ɔːr- / *adj BrE infml* very large

**gin rum-my** /ɪ. '..- / also *gin infml, esp. AmE*— *n* a simple card game for two people; form of RUMMY

**Gins-berg** /'gɪnzɜːg/ -bɜːrg/, **Allen** (1926– ) an American poet, leader of the BEAT GENERATION, who criticized American society for its MATERIALISM in the 1950s and 1960s. He travelled in Asia and was influenced by Buddhism.

**gin-seng** /'dʒɪnsen/ -sæn, -sen/ *n* [U] (a medicine made from the root of) a Chinese plant used originally in China and Korea, and now very popular in the West, being taken by people who believe that it keeps them young and healthy —compare ROYAL JELLY

**gin sling** /ɪ. 'l- / *n* a drink made from GIN<sup>1</sup> mixed with water, sugar, and sometimes other things e.g. LEMON juice

**gin trap** /'..- / *n* a GIN<sup>2</sup>

**Giot-to** /'dʒɪotəʊ/ 'dʒɔː- / (1266–1337) an Italian painter (Giotto di Bandone) and ARCHITECT. He was one of the most important 13th and 14th century painters, esp. of religious subjects.

**gip-py tum-my** /ɪdʒɪpi 'tʌmi/ *n* [S;U] *infml, esp. BrE* a condition in which one has stomach pains and often needs to pass waste matter from the body, caused esp. by eating food that is bad or which one is not used to

**gip-sy, gypsy** /'dʒɪpsi/ *n* (often *cap.*) a member of a dark-haired race which may be of Indian origin. They often live and travel about in covered carts (CARAVANS), earning money as horse traders, musicians, basket makers, FORTUNE-TELLERS, etc. —compare NEW AGE TRAVELLER

► **CULTURAL NOTE** Gypsies are often treated with disapproval, lack of trust, and lack of understanding because their way of life is so different to the way most other British people live. Gypsies live in most European countries. There are very few gypsies in the US, and there the word refers to anyone who has a wandering way of life. ◀

**Gipsy Moth IV** /ɪdʒɪpsi mʊθ ðə 'fɔːθ/ -mɔːθ ðə 'fɔːrθ- / the YACHT (=boat) in which Sir Francis Chichester sailed alone round the world in 1966–67

**gi-raffe** /dʒɪ'raɪf/ -'ræf/ *n* -raffes or -raffe an extremely tall African animal with a very long neck and legs and pale brown fur with dark spots, which eats the leaves from the branches of trees

**gird** /gɜːd/ gɜːrd/ *v* **girded** or **girt** /gɜːt/ gɜːrt/ [T] 1 *lit* to fasten (something) round or to (something or someone): *The knight girded on his sword.* 2 **gird (up) one's loins** *bibl, pomp, or humor* to get ready for action

**gir-der** /'gɜːdə/ 'gɜːr- / *n* a strong beam, usu. of iron or steel, which supports a floor, roof, or bridge

**gir-dle** /'gɜːdl/ 'gɜːr- / 1 a firm article of underwear for

women, worn round the waist and HIPS, that supports and shapes the stomach, hips, and bottom 2 *esp. lit* something which surrounds something else: *A girdle of islands enclosed the lagoon.*

**girdle**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T] *esp. lit* to go all the way round: *Our airline's routes girdle the world.*

**girl** /gɜːl/ gɜːrl/ *n* 1 a young female person: *There are more girls than boys in this school.* | *a girl acrobat* —see CHILD (USAGE) 2 a daughter, esp. young: *My little girl is ill.* | *Their eldest girl is getting married on Saturday.* 3 *infml* a woman: *The men have invited the girls to play football against them.* 4 *a* (often in *comb.*) a woman worker: *the office girls* | *shop girls* *b* (esp. formerly) a female servant: *a girl who looks after the children* 5 *infml old-fash* a girlfriend: *John's girl* 6 *a girl in every port* a phrase used about sailors, who are often mentioned in jokes as having a different girl waiting for them at each of the ports they visit 7 *there was a little girl and she had a little curl* the first line of a NURSERY RHYME (=an old song or poem for children):

*There was a little girl, and she had a little curl  
Right in the middle of her forehead;  
And when she was good she was very, very good,  
And when she was bad she was horrid!*

8 *what are little girls made of?* a line from a NURSERY RHYME (=an old song or poem for children). The answer is "sugar and spice and all things nice". —see also *what are little boys made of?* (BOY<sup>1</sup> (8)) 9 *What's a nice girl like you doing in a place like this?* a phrase which people believe is often used by a man as a way of introducing himself to a woman when he is interested in her sexually, now often used humorously

► **USAGE** Some people, esp. women, feel that it is offensive to call a woman a **girl** after she has become an adult, particularly in a situation where men are not called boys, e.g. at (3) above ◀

**girl Fri-day** /ɪ. 'l- / *n* a female secretary or general helper in an office —compare MAN FRIDAY

**girl-friend** /'gɜːlfrend/ 'gɜːrl- / *n* 1 the regular female friend of a boy or man. The word is used esp. when talking about the relationships of young people. Older people prefer to use the word "partner" or "friend". 2 a female lover 3 *esp. AmE* a woman's female friend with whom she spends time and shares amusements: *She's always on the phone to her girlfriends.* —see WOMAN (USAGE); see also BOYFRIEND

**girl guide** /ɪ. 'l- / *n* a member of the Girl Guides Association set up in 1910 to teach girls practical skills and develop their character

**girl-hood** /'gɜːlhʊd/ 'gɜːrl- / *n* [C *usu. sing.*; U] the state or time of being a young girl —see also BOYHOOD, CHILDHOOD

**girl-ie, girly** /'gɜːli/ 'gɜːrli/ *adj* [A] *infml* (esp. of a magazine or picture) showing young women with (almost) bare bodies, photographed in positions which are intended to be sexually exciting. As long as they are not considered to be PORNOGRAPHIC, girlie magazines can be sold openly in shops. Some people would like to change this, to make them less easily available. —compare PAGE THREE GIRL

**girl-ish** /'gɜːlɪʃ/ 'gɜːr- / *adj* of or like a girl: *sounds of girlish laughter* | *his girlish shyness* —~ly *adv* —~ness *n* [U]

**girl scout** /ɪ. 'l- / *n* a member of the Girl Scouts organization set up in the US in 1912. It is similar to the Girl Guides Association.

**gi-ro** /'dʒaɪərəʊ/ *n* 1 [U] a system of banking used in Britain, run by a bank or post office, in which a central computer handles the accounts which are held at different branches, so that payments can be made directly from one person's account to that of another 2 [C] (in Britain) a cheque from the state to a person who is unemployed: *I haven't got any money, my giro hasn't come yet.*

**Gi-ro-bank** /'dʒaɪərəʊbæŋk/ a bank which one deals with by post, or by telephone, or through the POST OFFICE

## girl guides



a British girl guide      an American girl scout



**girt** /gɜ:t||gɜ:rt/ *past tense & participle of GIRD*

**girth** /gɜ:θ||gɜ:rθ/ *n* 1 [C;U] *esp. tech* the measure of thickness round something: *the girth of a tree* | (*humor*) *his rather ample girth* (said of a fat person) 2 [C] a band which is passed tightly round the middle of a horse, DONKEY, etc., to keep the load or SADDLE (=rider's seat) firmly on its back —see picture at HORSE

**Gis-card d'Es-taing** /ʒi:skɑ: des'tæŋ||-ka:r-/ , Val-é-ry /'væləri/ (1926– ) a French politician who was president from 1974–81

**Gish** /gɪʃ/ , **Lil-li-an** /'lɪliən/ (1893–1993) an American actress known for her roles in silent films

**gis-mo** , **gizmo** /'gɪzməʊ/ *n esp. AmE infml* a small piece of equipment intended for a particular purpose; GADGET

**gist** /dʒɪst/ *n* [the (of)] the main points or general meaning: *I haven't time to read this report; can you give me the gist of it?*

**gite** /ʒi:t/ *n Fr* a furnished house in a country area of France that people can book for a holiday. They are quite popular with British people because they are cheaper than hotels and more comfortable than camping. Gîtes are popular *esp.* with MIDDLE-CLASS people in Britain.

**give**<sup>1</sup> /gɪv/ *v* **gave** /geɪv/ , **given** /'gɪvən/ ■ to cause or allow someone to have something 1 [T+obj(i)+obj(d)] to cause someone to have, hold, receive, or own: *Give me the tickets.* [+obj(d)+to] *Give the tickets to me.* | *Their teacher gave them a lot of homework.* | *My mother gave us chicken for lunch.* | *A 30-year-old man has been given an artificial heart in a special operation.* | *I'll give you our plants to look after while we're away.* | *He gave me his coat to mend.* | (fig.) *He gave the old lady his arm* (=allowed her to lean on it) *as she crossed the road.* 2 a [T+obj(i)+obj(d)] to hand (something) over as a present: *I gave my father some socks for Christmas.* [+obj(d)+to] *I gave those socks to my father.* | *We've just been given a piano by some friends of ours.* | *This piano was given to us by some friends of ours.* b [I+adv/prep] to supply (money); CONTRIBUTE: *It's a very deserving charity; please give generously.* —see also GIVE OF 3 [T+obj(i)+obj(d)] to allow to have: *Give him enough time to get home before you telephone.* | *I'll give you 24 hours to make a decision.* | *Were you given a choice, or did you have to do it?* | (infml) *I'd give their marriage a year at most.* (=I think it will only last a year) | **Given the chance** (=if someone gave me the chance), *I'd love to try again.* —see also GIVEN<sup>2</sup> 4 [T (to)] to provide or supply; cause someone, or people in general, to have (*esp.* something non-material): *The shop gives a generous discount on large orders.* | *The apple tree doesn't give much fruit.* | *to give evidence in a murder trial* [+obj(i)+obj(d)] *Whatever gave you that idea?* | *Can you give me more information?* | *Who gave you permission to do that?* | *I'd like you to give me your honest opinion of my work.* | *Please give your parents my regards.* | *Digging the garden gave me a pain in the back.* | *The drop in prices should give sales a boost.* | *Has official approval been given to the scheme?* 5 [T (for)] to pay in order to buy; pay in exchange (for something): *I can't believe you gave £3000 for that broken-down old car!* [+obj(i)+obj(d)] *How much will you give me for this silver teapot?* ■ to perform an action; make something happen or exist 6 [T] a to perform or carry out (an action): *Give the signal to fire!* | *He gave a deep sigh.* | *The prisoner gave a shrug of indifference.* b [+obj(i)+obj(d)] to cause (an action) to be performed on or to (something or someone): *Give me a kiss.* | *She gave the tin a good polish.* | *He gave her hand a reassuring squeeze.* | *I gave the ball a kick* 7 [T (to)] to produce (an effect, appearance, etc.): *She gives the impression of being very well organized.* | *His books have given pleasure to millions.* [+obj(i)+obj(d)] *The news gave us a shock.* | *I hope my son didn't give you any trouble.* 8 [T] to cause (a performance, amusement, or public event) to take place: *He gave a reading of his poetry.* | *Another performance will be given next week.* | *The President is giving a press conference tomorrow.* [+obj(i)+obj(d)] *Give us a song!* | *We are giving John a party for his birthday.* ■ other meanings 9 [T] to set aside (time, thought, strength, etc.) for a purpose: *They have given their lives in the cause of preserving democracy.* [+obj(i)+obj(d)] *You must give more attention to your work/give your work more attention.* | *The unemployment problem must now be given top priority.* 10 [T+obj(i)+obj(d)] to punish in the stated way, *esp.* to send to prison for the stated time: *The judge gave her two years.* | *He was given*

*a life sentence for murder.* | *The boy was given a beating for stealing the money.* 11 [T+obj(i)+obj(d)] *infml* to admit the truth of: *It's too late to go to the party, I give you that.* *But we could go somewhere else.* 12 [T+obj+to-v; often pass.] *fml* to cause to believe, *esp.* wrongly, because of information given: *They gave me to understand they would wait for me, but they left without me.* | *I was given to understand that he was ill.* 13 [T+obj(i)+obj(d)] to offer as an excuse or explanation: *Don't give me that nonsense about your bad leg!* 14 [T+obj(i)+obj(d)] *esp. BrE* to call on (people present) to drink to the health of; ask (people) to drink a TOAST<sup>1</sup> to: *Gentlemen, I give you the President!* 15 [T+obj+adv; often pass.] *BrE* (in certain games) to declare (a player or ball) to be in the stated condition: *The centre forward was given off-side.* | *The linesman gave the ball out.* 16 [I] to bend or stretch under pressure: *The branch he was sitting on began to give.* | (fig.) *There's a lot of tension in the international situation at present; something has got to give soon.* —see also GIVE<sup>2</sup> ■ fixed phrases 17 **give as good as one gets** to answer or fight with force equal to that of one's opponent in an argument or fight 18 **give it to someone (straight)** *infml* to tell someone something unpleasant (in a direct way) 19 **give me (something)** I like (something) best: *Give me a nice old house any day/every time.* (=I like old houses much better than new ones.) 20 **give or take (a certain amount)** (a certain amount) more or less: *It will take an hour, give or take a few minutes (either way).* 21 **I/he/they/etc. don't/couldn't give a damn/hoot/etc.** *infml* I/he/they/etc. don't care at all: *He couldn't give a damn about her.* [+wh-] *I don't give a damn how you do it, so long as it gets done.* 22 **I/he/they/etc. would give a lot/anything/the world, etc.** I/he/they/etc. would very much like (to do or have something): *The boys would give anything to meet that football player.* | *I'd give my right arm to be able to sing like that!* 23 **it is better to give than to receive** *quote* a slightly changed phrase from the Bible 24 **What gives?** *infml* (used for showing surprise) *What's happening?* —see also give way (WAY<sup>1</sup> (17)) —**giver** *n* ■ phrasal verbs

**give sbdy./sthg. ↔ away** *phr v* [T] 1 to get rid of by giving: *She gave away all her money to the poor.* | *No one wants to buy last year's fashions; you can't even give them away.* | (fig.) *He gave away* (=lost carelessly) *his last chance of winning the election when he said the wrong thing on TV.* 2 to give ceremonially; PRESENT: *The local MP will give away the prizes at the school speech day.* 3 [(to)] to give information about; tell (a secret): *Someone in the gang gave him away to the police.* [+wh-] *She made me promise not to give away where it was hidden.* | *I'll tell you our plan to surprise David if you promise not to give the game away.* 4 to show the truth about; REVEAL: *She tried to appear indifferent, but her eyes gave her away.* 5 to officially hand over (a woman) to her husband at a wedding: *Mary was given away by her father.* —see also GIVEAWAY

**give sthg. ↔ back** *phr v* [T (to)] to return (something) to its owner or original possessor: *Give it back (to me).* [+obj(i)+obj(d)] *Give me back my pen.* | *The operation gave her back the use of her legs.*

**give in** *phr v* [(to)] 1 [I] to give way; allow oneself to be beaten; SURRENDER: *The boys fought until one gave in.* | *Don't give in to their demands.* | *I gave in to temptation and had a cigarette.* 2 [T] (=give sthg. ↔ in) to deliver; hand in: *Give your exam papers in (to the teacher) when you've finished.*

**give of sthg.** *phr v* [T] *fml* to give (time, effort, etc.) without expecting anything in return: *They have given unstintingly of their time and money to help the poor.*

**give off sthg.** *phr v* [T] to send out (*esp.* a liquid, gas, or smell); EMIT: *The eggs were giving off a bad smell.*

**give on/onto sthg.** *phr v* [T no pass.] *BrE* to have a view of, or lead straight to: *That door gives onto the garden.*

**give out** *phr v* 1 [T (to)] (give sthg. ↔ out) to give to each of several people; DISTRIBUTE: *Give out the exam papers.* | *Give the money out to the children.* 2 [T] (give sthg. ↔ out) *esp. BrE* to make known publicly; ANNOUNCE: *The date of the election will be given out soon.* [+that] *They gave out on the radio that the president had died.* 3 [T] (give out sthg.) to send out (*esp.* a noise): *The radio is giving out a strange signal.* | *She gave out a yell.* 4 [I] to come to an end; be completely used up: *Our supply of sugar has given out.* | *My strength gave out.* 5 [I] *infml* to stop working; break down: *The engine gave out.*



**give over** (sthg.) *phr v* [I;T+v-ing; often imperative] BrE *infml* to stop (doing something): *Do give over! I'm sick of your complaints!* | *Give over hitting your little brother!*

**give over to** *phr v* [T] 1 (give sthg. over to sthg.) to set (a time or place) apart for a particular purpose or use: *The building was given over to the youth club.* | *The evening was given over to singing and dancing.* 2 (give sbdy./sthg. over to sthg.) to give (oneself or something) completely to: *After her husband's death she gave herself over to her work.* | *He gave his life over to helping people.*

**give up** *phr v* 1 [I;T (=give sthg. ↔ up)] to stop having or doing: *"Do you smoke?" "No, I gave up last year."* | *The doctor told him to give up alcohol.* | *He had to give up his studies through lack of money.* [+v-ing] *I've given up eating meat.* 2 [I] to stop attempting something; admit defeat: *I give up (=I can't guess); tell me the end of the story.* | *All the girls swam the lake except two, who gave up halfway.* 3 [T] (give sbdy. up) to stop believing that (someone) can be saved, esp. from death: *The doctors had almost given her up when she made a dramatic recovery.* | *The boy was given up for dead.* 4 [T] (give sbdy. ↔ up) to stop having a relationship with: *She gave up a lot of her friends when she got married.* 5 [T (to)] (give sbdy. up) to offer (someone or oneself) as a prisoner: *The murderer gave himself up (to the police).* 6 [T (to)] (give sthg. ↔ up) to deliver or allow to pass (to someone else): *We had to give up the town (to the enemy).* | *Give your seat up to the old lady, Jimmy.* —see also **give up the ghost** (GHOST<sup>1</sup>)

**give up on** sbdy. *phr v* [T no pass.] *infml* to have no further hope for: *I give up on you; you'll never get anywhere with that attitude.*

**give sbdy. up to sthg.** *phr v* [T] to allow (oneself) to feel completely the effects of: *She had given herself up to despair.*

**give<sup>2</sup>** *n* [U] the quality of bending, stretching, or loosening under pressure: *Shoes get slightly larger after wearing because of the give in the leather.* | *There was too much give in the rope, and it slipped off the box it was holding.* —see also **GIVE<sup>1</sup>** (16)

**give-and-take** /,ˌɡɪv.ən.dʌk/ *n* [U] willingness of each person to give way to (some of) the other's wishes; willingness to COMPROMISE: *There has to be a lot of give-and-take in any successful marriage.*

**give-a-way<sup>1</sup>** /'ɡɪvəweɪ/ *n* 1 [S] *infml* something unintentional that makes a secret known: *She tried to hide her feelings, but the tears in her eyes were a dead giveaway.* 2 [C] something given in a shop with a certain product to encourage people to buy that product —see also **GIVE away**

**giveaway<sup>2</sup>** *adj* [A] *infml* (of a price) very low

**given<sup>1</sup>** /'ɡɪvən/ *adj* 1 [A] fixed for a purpose and stated as such: *The work must be done at/within the given time.* | *In a circle, the distance from the centre to the edge is the same at any given point.* 2 **be given to** to be in the habit of or to have a tendency to: *He's given to drinking rather heavily.* | *She's given to depression.*

**given<sup>2</sup>** *prep* if one takes into account: *Given their inexperience, they've done a good job.* [+that] *Given that they're inexperienced, they've done a good job.* —see also **GIVE<sup>1</sup>** (3)

**given name** /'ɡɪvən.nə/ *n* esp. AmE for **FIRST NAME**

**Gi-za** /'ɡɪzə/ a city in Egypt near Cairo where the Pyramids and the Sphinx attract many tourists

**giz-mo** /'ɡɪzməʊ/ **GISMO**

**giz-zard** /'ɡɪzəd/ *n* the second stomach of a bird, where food is broken up with the help of small stones the bird has swallowed

**glacé** /'glæseɪ/ *adj* [A] (of a fruit) covered with sugar: *glacé cherries*

**glacé icing** /,glæseɪ.ɪŋ/ *n* [U] a type of ICING often used on birthday cakes, made from icing sugar and water, often with colouring added

**glacial** /'gleɪʃəl/ *adj* 1 of ice or glaciers 2 [A] of an ICE AGE: *Two thirds of the continent was covered in ice during glacial periods.* 3 *infml* very cold: *a glacial wind* | (fig.) *He gave me a glacial smile.* (=without friendliness)

**glaci-er** /'glæsiə/ *n* a mass of ice which moves very slowly down a mountain valley —see picture at **MOUNTAIN**

**glad** /glæd/ *adj* -dd- 1 [F (about)] pleased and happy about

something: *I'm glad about his new job.* [+ (that)] *I'm glad he's got the job.* [+to-v] *You'll be glad to hear he's got the job.* 2 [F+of] grateful for: *I'd be glad of some help with carrying these boxes.* 3 [F+to-v] polite very willing: *I'll be only too glad (=extremely willing) to help you repair the car.* | *"Would you give me a hand?" "Yes, I'll be glad to."* 4 [A] causing happiness: *I'm pleased to be the first to bring you the glad tidings.* (=good news) —see also **GLADLY** — ~ness *n* [U]

**glad-den** /'glædn/ *v* [T] to make glad or happy: *The sight of the child running about after his long illness gladdened his father's heart.*

**glade** /gleɪd/ *n* lit an open space without trees in a wood or forest; **CLEARING**

**glad eye** /,glæd.ɪ/ *n* [the] BrE old-fash sl a look of sexual invitation: *The boys were all giving her the glad eye.*

**glad hand** /,glæd.hænd/ *n* [the] old-fash *infml* a warm welcome or greeting, esp. one made in order to gain personal advantage

**glad-i-a-tor** /'glædiətə/ *n* (in ancient Rome) an armed man who fought against men or wild animals in a public place as a form of entertainment — ~ial /,glædiə'tɔ:riəl/ *adj*

**glad-i-o-lus** /,glædi'əʊləs/ *n* -li /laɪ/ or -luses || also -lus AmE a garden plant with long sword-shaped leaves and brightly-coloured flowers

**glad-ly** /'glædli/ *adv* polite very willingly; eagerly: *I'll gladly come and help you; why didn't you ask me before?*

**glad rags** /'glæd.rægz/ *n* [P] BrE *infml* (one's) finest or best clothes: *They're putting their glad rags on for the party.*

**Glad-stone** /'glædstən/ -stəʊn/, **Wil-liam Ew-art** /'wɪljəm 'ju:ət/-ərt/ (1809–98) a British Liberal politician, who was PRIME MINISTER from 1868 to 1874, from 1880 to 1885, in 1886, and from 1892 to 1894. He established national education, introduced the secret BALLOT, and supported free trade and home rule for Ireland.

**Glamorgan** see **MID GLAMORGAN**, **SOUTH GLAMORGAN**, **WEST GLAMORGAN**

**glam-o-rize** also -our- BrE also -rise BrE /'glæməraɪz/ *v* [T] to make (something) appear better, more attractive, more exciting, etc. than it really is —rization /,glæməraɪ'zeɪʃən/ *n* [U]

**glam-or-ous**, also -ourous BrE /'glæmərəs/ *adj* having glamour: *a glamorous woman* | *Being in publishing/in the theatre isn't as glamorous as some people think.* — ~ly *adv*

**glam-our** BrE || -or AmE /'glæmə/ *n* [U] 1 the exciting and charming quality of something unusual or special, with a magical power of attraction: *Foreign travel has never lost its glamour for me.* | *the glamour of a job in the pop music business* 2 strong personal attraction which excites admiration, esp. sexually exciting beauty: *They know they'll get bigger audiences if they give the parts to glamour girls rather than talented actresses.*

**glance<sup>1</sup>** /glɑ:ns/ *v* [I] 1 [+adv/prep] to give a quick short look: *He glanced at his watch.* | *I glanced round the room before I left.* | *She glanced down the list of names.* 2 esp. lit (of a bright surface) to flash with light: *The glasses glanced and twinkled in the firelight.*

**glance off** (sthg.) *phr v* [I;T] to touch (something) with a light blow and move quickly off at an angle: *The bullet just glanced off the top of the car.* | *The sword glanced off the shield.* —see also **GLANCING**

**glance<sup>2</sup>** *n* 1 [(at)] a quick short look: *He gave her an admiring glance.* | *One glance at his face told me he was ill.* | *She cast/took a (quick) glance at the notepad to see if there were any messages for her.* | *At first glance, the figures don't look good, but on closer examination you'll find they're not bad at all.* 2 **at a glance** with one look; at once: *I could tell at a glance that she'd been crying.*

▷ **USAGE** Compare **glance** and **glimpse**. **Glance** means "to look at something quickly": *As I was making the speech, I glanced at the clock.* (=looked quickly at it) **Glimpse** (or more commonly **catch a glimpse of**) means "to see by chance, just for a moment": *I glimpsed/caught a glimpse of the Town Hall clock as we drove quickly past.*

**glanc-ing** /'glɑ:nsɪŋ/ *adj* [A] (of a blow) which slips to one side; not having (the intended) full force: *He caught me (=hit me) with a glancing blow on the chin.* —see also **GLANCE off** — ~ly *adv*



**gland** /glænd/ *n* an organ of the body which produces a liquid substance, either to be poured out of the body or into the bloodstream: *Mumps makes the glands in your neck swell up.* | *the pituitary gland*

**glan-du-lar** /'glændjʊlə-/-dʒə/ *adj* concerning one or more glands, or produced from a gland

**glandular fe-ver** /,... '.../ *BrE* || **mononucleosis**, *mono AmE*— *n* [U] an infectious disease in which one has a fever and the LYMPH glands swell up, and which makes one feel weak for some time afterwards

**glare**<sup>1</sup> /gleə/ *v* [I] 1 [(at)] to look in an angry way: *They didn't fight, but stood there glaring at one another.* 2 [+adv/prep] to shine with a strong light and/or in a way that hurts the eyes: *She put on dark glasses because the sun was glaring in her eyes.* | (fig.) *The mistakes in this report really glare at you.*

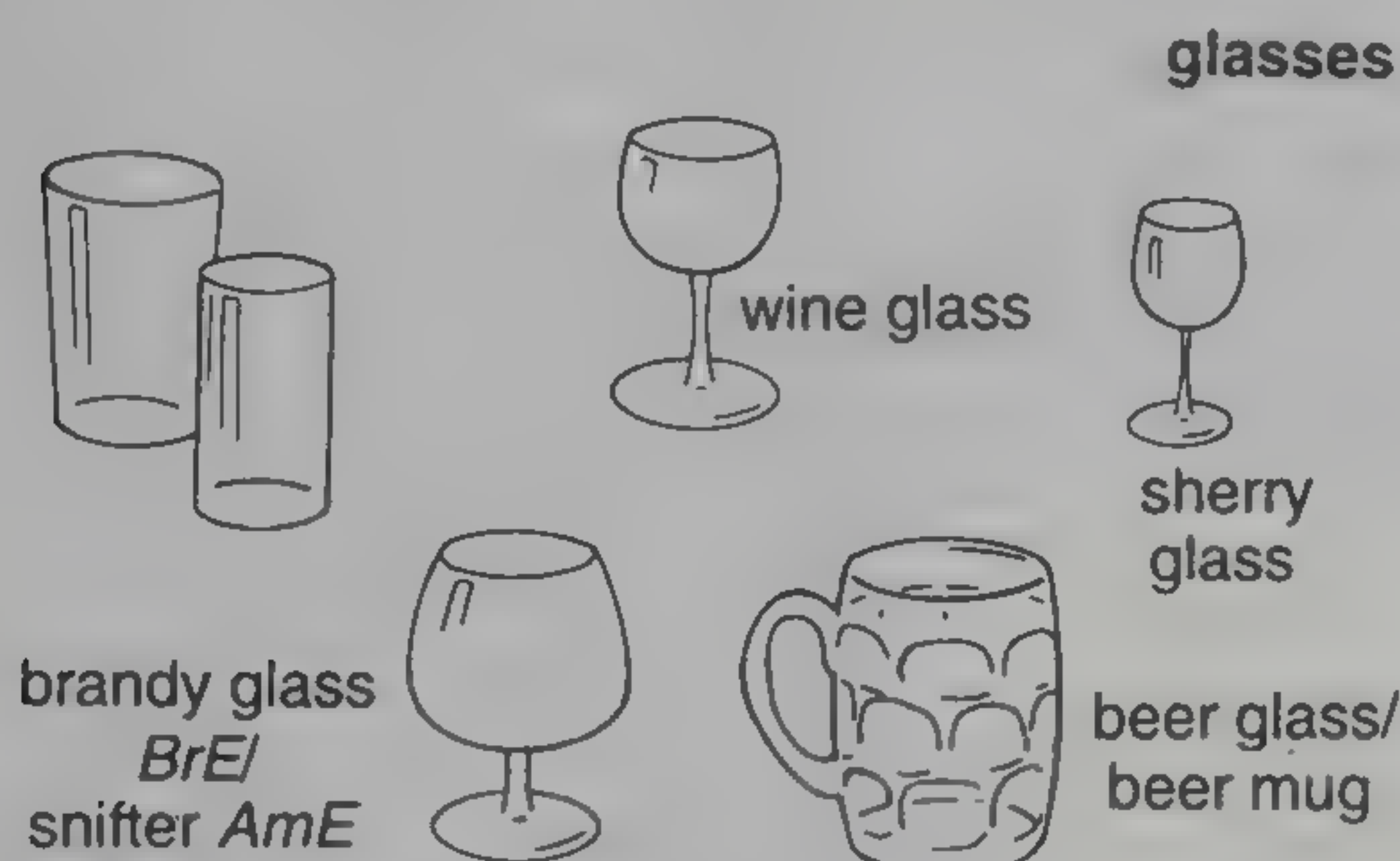
**glare**<sup>2</sup> *n* 1 [C] an angry look or STARE: *I was going to offer help, but the fierce glare on his face stopped me.* 2 [(the) S] a hard unpleasant effect given by a strong light: *She was almost blinded by the glare of headlights from the approaching car.* | (fig.) *I feel sorry for famous people who live their lives in the (full) glare of publicity.*

**glaring** /'gleəriŋ/ *adj* 1 *a* (of light) hard and too bright: *This glaring light hurts my eyes.* *b* (of a colour) too bright: *a glaring red* 2 (of something bad) very noticeable: *The report is full of glaring errors.* | *an example of glaring injustice* — *~ly adv*: *The mistakes were glaringly obvious.*

**Glas-gow** /'glɑːzgəʊ/ || 'glæs-/ a city and port in W Scotland on the River Clyde. It is the main city in the Strathclyde area and has a university and CATHEDRAL. —see colour map on page 818

**Glasgow Herald** /,... '.../ *n* one of Scotland's main newspapers, read esp. in the West of Scotland —see also extra information on page 896

**glas-nost** /'glæsnɒst/ || 'glɑːsnəʊst/ *n* [U] the willingness of an organization, esp. the government of the former USSR, to act openly and discuss its behaviour and actions publicly: *the spirit of glasnost* | *policy of glasnost* —compare PERESTROIKA



**glass**<sup>1</sup> /glɑːs/ || 'glæs/ *n* 1 [U] a transparent solid easily-broken material made from sand melted under great heat and used esp. to make windows and containers for liquids: *a glass bottle* | *The glazier fitted a new pane of glass in the window.* | *I cut my hand on some broken glass.* | *I grew these cucumbers under glass.* (=in a FRAME<sup>1</sup> (4)) | *a shop window made of strengthened glass* 2 [U] also **glassware**— objects, esp. dishes, drinking glasses, etc., made of this: *the museum's valuable collection of medieval Italian glass* 3 [C] (the contents of) a small usu. glass container for drinking from: *a wine glass* | *a broken/cracked glass* | *I drink several glasses of water a day.* | *a plastic glass* —see picture at PLACE SETTING 4 [C] *infml*, *BrE* for LOOKING GLASS 5 [(the) *BrE*] the measurement shown on an apparatus with a pointer which moves downwards when bad weather is coming (BAROMETER): *The glass is falling; it's going to rain.* 6 **people in glass houses shouldn't throw stones** saying people who have faults of their own should not criticize other people, because they might be criticized in return 7 **through a glass darkly** phrase from the Bible we do not see clearly now: *As for the outlook for next year—through a glass darkly indeed.* —see also GLASSES, CUT GLASS, GROUND GLASS, MAGNIFYING GLASS, PLATE GLASS, STAINED GLASS

**glass**<sup>2</sup> *v*

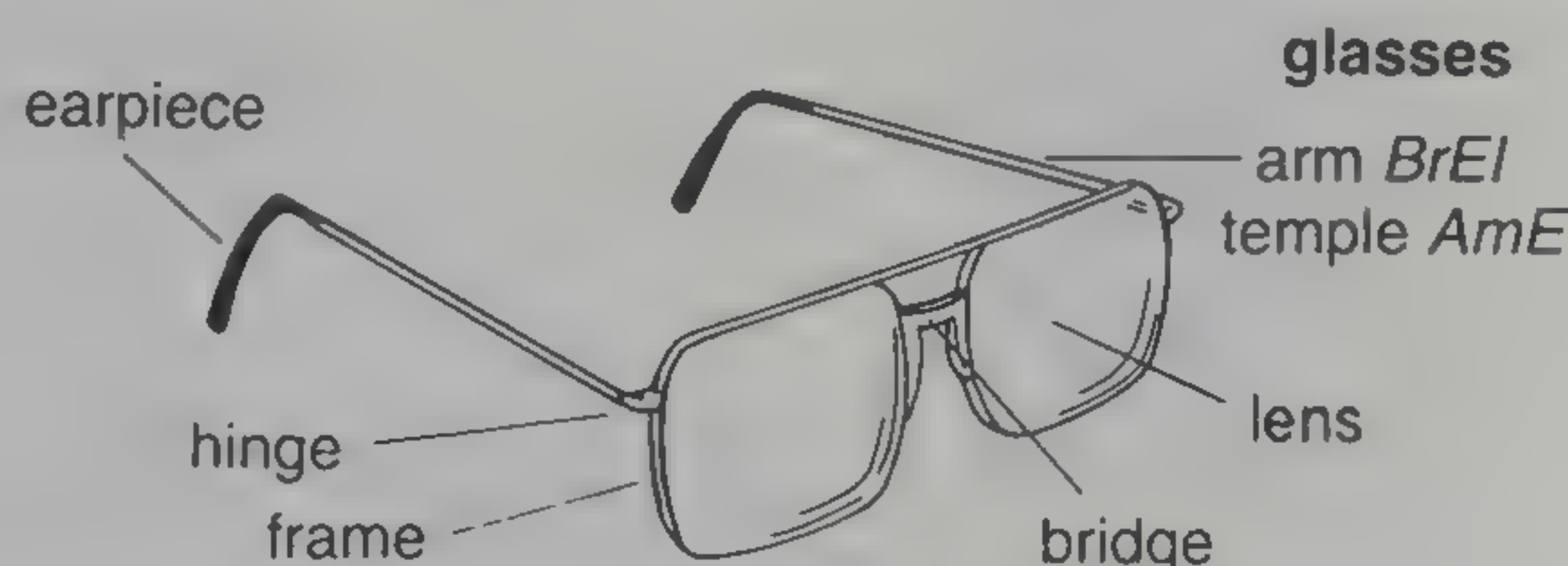
**glass** sthg. ↔ *in phr v* [T] to cover with or enclose in glass

**Glass, Philip** (1937– ) an American COMPOSER who was influenced by Far Eastern music. His works include *Einstein on the Beach*.

**glass-blow-er** /'glɑːs,bləʊə/ || 'glæs-/ *n* a person who shapes glass into bottles, glass animals, etc., by blowing air through a tube into a ball of hot liquid glass

**glass cei-ling** /,... '.../ *n* an imaginary limit that allows people to see their aims but prevents them from achieving them, usu. because of RACISM or SEXISM

**glass-cut-ter** /'glɑːs,kʌtə/ || 'glæs-/ *n* 1 a person who cuts glass into pieces or cuts patterns on glass objects 2 a tool for cutting glass



**glass-es** /'glɑːsɪz/ || 'glæ-/ *n* [P] 1 two pieces of specially-cut glass in a frame, worn in front of the eyes for improving a person's ability to see; SPECTACLES (*BrE*): *He wears glasses for reading.* | *I need some new glasses/a new pair of glasses.* | *The film star was wearing dark glasses.* 2 **men never make passes at girls who wear glasses** saying men do not find women who wear glasses attractive —see also OPERA GLASSES, SUNGLASSES

**glass fi-bre** /,... '.../ *n* [U] FIBREGLASS

**glass-house** /'glɑːshaʊs/ || 'glæs-/ *n* *BrE*—**houses** /,haʊzɪz/ 1 [C] a building used for growing plants; GREENHOUSE 2 [(the) *sl*] military prison

**glass slip-per** /,... '.../ *n* a special glass shoe worn by Cinderella —see CINDERELLA, and see colour picture on page 357

**glass-ware** /'glɑːswɛə/ || 'glæs-/ *n* [U] glass objects generally, esp. dishes, drinking glasses, etc.

**glass-works** /'glɑːswɜːks/ || 'glæs-wɜːrks/ *n* **glassworks** a factory where glass is made

**glass-y** /'glɑːsi/ || 'glæsi/ *adj* 1 like glass, esp. smooth and shining: *a glassy pond* 2 (of eyes) having a fixed expression, as if without sight or life: *glassy eyes* | *a glassy stare*

**Glas-ton-bur-y** /'glæstənbəri/ || -beri/ a town in SW England where many things from the Iron Age have been found. It has associations with King Arthur's Isle of Avalon and with the story of St Joseph of Arimathea. It is popular with HIPPIES and NEW AGE TRAVELLERS

**Glas-we-gian** /glæz'wiːdʒən/ || 'glæs-/ *n* *BrE infml* 1 [C] a name used for someone, esp. a man, from Glasgow: *I'm a Glaswegian born and bred.* 2 [U] a way of speaking typical of people from Glasgow —**Glaswegian** *adj*

**glau-co-ma** /glɔː'kəʊmə/ *n* [U] a disease of the eye in which there is increased pressure within the eyeball, which gradually causes loss of sight

**glau-cous** /'glɔːkəs/ *adj tech* (of a leaf, fruit, etc.) covered with a fine whitish powdery surface

**Glax-o** /'glæksəʊ/ a British company, operating in many countries, which makes drugs and medicines

**glaze**<sup>1</sup> /gleɪz/ *v* 1 [T] to put a shiny surface on (pots and bricks) 2 [T] to cover (food) with a substance giving a shiny surface: *glazed fruit* 3 [T] to provide or fit with glass: *a glazed door* —see also DOUBLE-GLAZING 4 [I (OVER)] (of eyes) to become dull and lifeless: *His eyes glazed over and he fell back unconscious.* | *a glazed expression*

**glaze**<sup>2</sup> *n* 1 a shiny surface, esp. one fixed on pots by heat 2 a transparent covering of oil paint spread over solid paint, esp. to change the effect of the colours in a painting 3 a liquid substance which may be spread over cold cooked meats or fruit, and which produces a shiny surface when it sets

**glazi-er** /'gleɪziə/ || -zər/ *n* a person whose job is to fit glass, esp. into window frames



**glaz-ing** /'gleɪzɪŋ/ *n* [U] 1 the action or job of a glazier 2 glass used to fill a window —see also DOUBLE-GLAZING

**GLC** /ˌdʒiː el 'siː/ [*the*] Greater London Council; formed in 1964, this body had members from all the London BOROUGH COUNCILS, and was the local authority for Greater London. It was the subject of much fierce political argument and opposed many of the policies of the Conservative government of Margaret Thatcher. In 1985 it was removed and its responsibilities were given back to the local borough councils.

**gleam**<sup>1</sup> /gliːm/ *n* 1 [(of)] a gentle light, esp. one that is small and/or shines for a short time: *the red gleam of the firelight* | *Gleams of sunshine came through the breaks in the cloud.* 2 [+of] a sudden showing of a feeling or quality for a short time: *A gleam of interest came into his eye.* | *a gleam of hope* —compare GLIMMER, GLOW

**gleam**<sup>2</sup> *v* [I] 1 to give out a gentle light; shine softly: *We saw the lights of the little town gleaming in the distance.* | *a gleaming new Cadillac* 2 [+adv/prep] (of a feeling) to be expressed with a sudden light (in the eyes): *Amusement gleamed in his eyes.*

**glean** /gliːn/ *v* 1 [T] to gather (facts or information) in small amounts and often with difficulty: *From what I was able to glean, it appears they don't intend to take any action yet.* 2 [I;T] to collect (grain that has been left behind) after crops have been cut

**glean-ings** /'gliːnɪŋz/ *n* [P] 1 small amounts of information or news, perhaps gathered with difficulty 2 the grain gathered in the fields after the crops have been cut

**Glea-son** /'gliːsən/, Jackie (1916–87) an American actor and COMEDIAN, best remembered for his part in the long-running television programme *The Honeymooners*

**glebe** /gliːb/ *n* 1 [*the*] poet the earth or soil 2 [C] tech the land held by a priest to provide part of his income

**glee** /gliː/ *n* 1 [U] a feeling of joyful satisfaction at something which pleases one: *The little girl jumped about in glee when she saw the new toys.* 2 [C] a song for three or four voices together, often sung by the members of a **glee club** (=AmE a particular type of CHOIR)

**glee-ful** /'gliːfəl/ *adj* showing joy and delight —~ly *adv*

**glen** /glen/ *n* a narrow mountain valley, esp. in Scotland or Ireland

**Glen Coe** /ˌˈˌ/ a valley in the W Highland Region of Scotland. It is important in Scottish history as the place where a famous battle took place in 1692.

**Glen-ea-gles** /glen'iːgəlz/ two popular Scottish hotel GOLF courses. In 1977 heads of Commonwealth governments met here to agree the **Gleneagles Principle** which said that all sporting links with South Africa should be cut because of APARTHEID.

**Glen-fid-dich** /glen'fɪdɪk, -ɪx/ *n* [U] tdmk a type of MALT WHISKY

**Glenn** /glen/, John (1921– ) the first American ASTRONAUT to ORBIT (=travel in a large circle) around the earth. In 1974 he became a US SENATOR representing Ohio.

**glib** /glɪb/ *adj* -bb- often derog 1 good at speaking quickly, cleverly, and in a way that is likely to persuade people, whether speaking the truth or not: *a glib salesman/politician* | *He's got a glib tongue.* 2 spoken too easily to be true: *She's always ready with a glib excuse/reply.* —~ly *adv* —~ness *n* [U]

**glide**<sup>1</sup> /glɑɪd/ *v* [I] 1 [+adv/prep] to move (noiselessly) in a smooth continuous manner, which seems easy and without effort: *The boat glided over the lake.* | *The dancers glided across the floor.* —compare SLIDE 2 a (of a bird) to fly smoothly through the air without moving the wings b (of a person) to fly in a glider: *He goes gliding at weekends.* —see also HANG GLIDING

**glide**<sup>2</sup> *n* 1 a gliding movement 2 (in music) the act of passing from one note to another without a break in sound 3 tech (in PHONETICS) a sound made while passing from one position of the speech organs to another, e.g. when pronouncing a DIPHTHONG

**glid-er** /'glɑɪdə/ *n* a light plane without an engine that can only fly after being pulled into the air by another plane

**glim-mer**<sup>1</sup> /'glɪmə/ *v* [I] to give a very faint unsteady light: *A light glimmered at the end of the passage.*

**glimmer**<sup>2</sup> *n* 1 a faint unsteady light 2 [+of] also **glim-mer-ing** /'glɪməɪŋ/ — a small uncertain sign:

*There's still a glimmer of hope left for the lost climbers.* | *She spoke enthusiastically, but her audience didn't show a glimmer of interest.* —compare GLEAM, GLOW

**glimpse**<sup>1</sup> /glɪmps/ *v* [T] to have a quick incomplete view of: *I glimpsed her among the crowd just before she disappeared from sight.*

**glimpse**<sup>2</sup> *n* a quick look at or incomplete view of: *I only caught a glimpse of the thief, so I can't really describe him.* —see GLANCE<sup>2</sup> (USAGE)

**glint**<sup>1</sup> /glɪnt/ *v* [I] to give out small flashes of light: *The gold glinted in the sunlight.* | (fig.) *Their eyes glinted when they saw the money.*

**glint**<sup>2</sup> *n* a flash of light, as from a shiny metal surface: *brown hair with golden glints* | *I could tell he was angry by the glint in his eye.*

**glis-ten** /'glɪsən/ *v* [I (with)] to shine (as if) from wetness: *His brow/forehead glistened with sweat.* —~ingly *adv*

**glis-ter** /'glɪstə/ *v* [I] all that glisters is not gold quote a phrase from Shakespeare's play *The Merchant of Venice* meaning that not everything that appears attractive and good actually is: *For the man at the head of Britain's biggest jewellery chain, all that glisters is not gold.*

**glitch** /glɪtʃ/ *n* AmE infml 1 a small fault in the operation of something 2 a false ELECTRONIC signal caused by a sudden increase in electrical power

**glit-ter**<sup>1</sup> /'glɪtə/ *v* [I] 1 to shine brightly with flashing points of light: *The diamond ring glittered on her finger.* | (fig.) *The film première was a glittering occasion, with royalty and many famous stars in attendance.* 2 all that glitters is not gold quote a slightly changed phrase from Shakespeare's play *The Merchant of Venice*, meaning that not everything that appears attractive actually is

**glitter**<sup>2</sup> *n* 1 [S] a brightness, as of flashing points of light: *the glitter of the sun on the waves* | *The torturer had a cruel glitter in his eyes.* 2 [U] attractiveness; GLAMOUR: *Beneath its surface glitter, the fashion industry is a tough place to work in.* 3 [U] very small glittering objects used for decoration: *She sprinkled silver glitter in her hair.* | *a tube of glitter* —~y *adj*

**Glitter, Gar-y** /'gæri/ (1940– ) a British popular music singer, successful in the 1970s, known esp. for his tight, shiny clothes and his large boots with thick, high heels

**glit-te-ra-ti** /ˌglɪtə'reɪti/ *n* [(the)P] sl fashionable and usu. rich and famous people whose social activities are widely reported (from a humorous combination of glitter and LITERATI): *Hollywood's glitterati*

**glitz** /glɪts/ *n* [U] sl an exciting fashionable quality (without seriousness or deep meaning) —~y *adj*: *one of the year's glitziest parties, reported in all the newspaper gossip columns*

**gloom-ing** /'gləʊmɪŋ/ [*the*] poet (the time of) half darkness in the early evening; DUSK

**gloat** /gləʊt/ *v* [I (over)] to look at or think about something with unpleasant satisfaction: *The thief gloated over the stolen jewels.* | *Don't gloat; the same misfortune may happen to you one day.* —**gloat** *n*: *I'm sure he'll have a good gloat over this.* —~ingly *adv*

**glo-bal** /'gləʊbəl/ *adj* 1 of or concerning the whole world: *events of global importance* | *Global climatic changes may have been responsible for the extinction of the dinosaurs.* 2 taking account of or including (almost) all possible considerations: *The report takes a global view of the company's problems.* —~ly *adv*

**glo-bal-is-m** /'gləʊbəlaɪzəm/ *n* [U] the quality of being concerned with causes and effects over the whole world, not just single parts of it —ist *adj*, *n*: *globalist economic policies*

**global warm-ing** /ˌˈˌ/ *n* [U] a general increase in world temperatures caused by CARBON DIOXIDE collecting in space immediately around the Earth —see also GREENHOUSE EFFECT

**globe** /gləʊb/ *n* 1 [C] an object in the shape of a round ball; SPHERE 2 [C] an object like this on which a map of the Earth or sky is painted, and which may be turned round and round on its base 3 [*the*] lit the Earth: *She has travelled all round the globe.*

**globe ar-ti-choke** /ˌˈˌ/ *n* an ARTICHOKE (1)

**Globe Thea-tre** /ˌˈˌ/ [*the*] the theatre in London where Shakespeare's plays were first performed. It was





A scene from one of the Carry On films

Laurel and Hardy



Charlie Chaplin



Eddie Murphy



Robin Williams



Dame Edna

The Blues Brothers



Woody Allen



Benny Hill





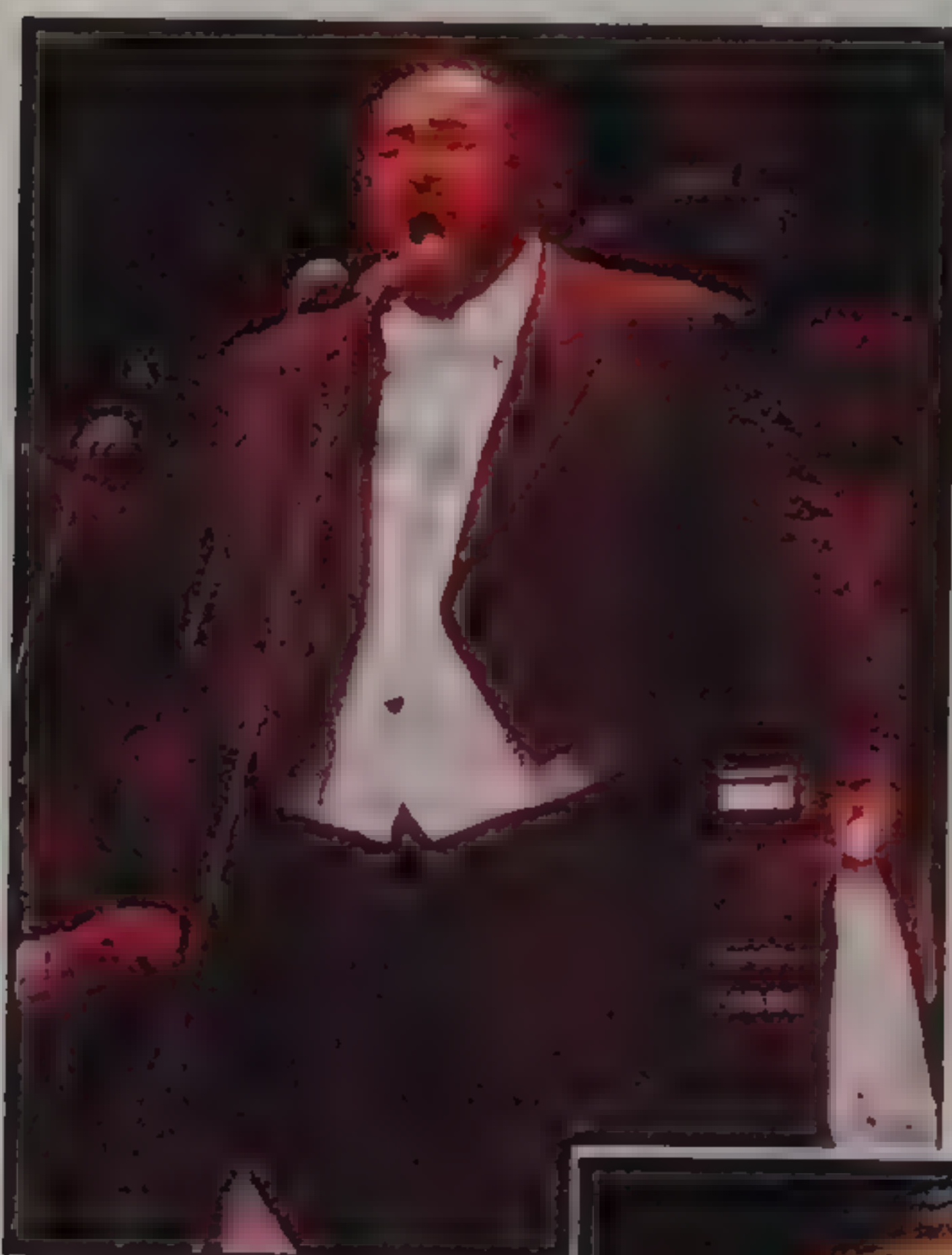
Buddy Holly



The Beatles



David Bowie



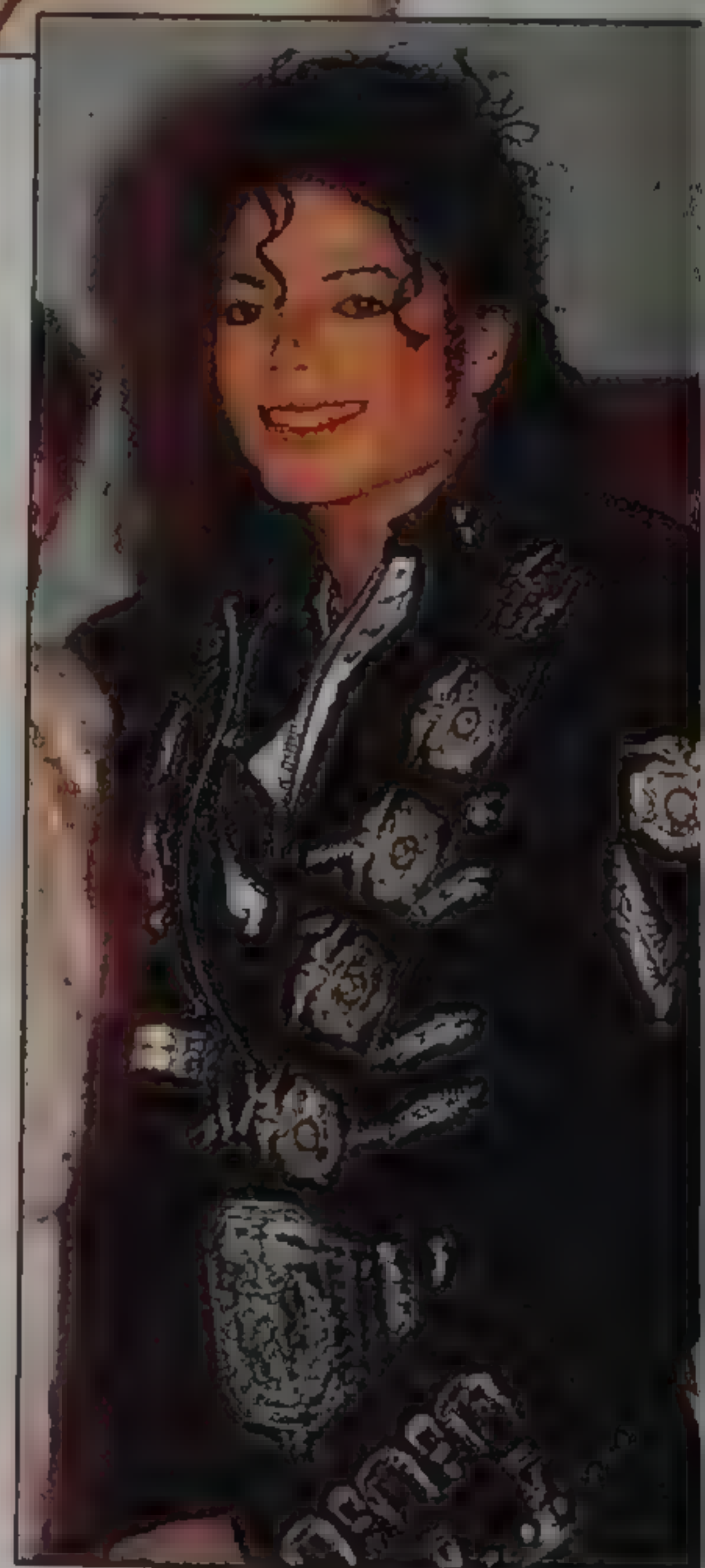
Luciano Pavarotti



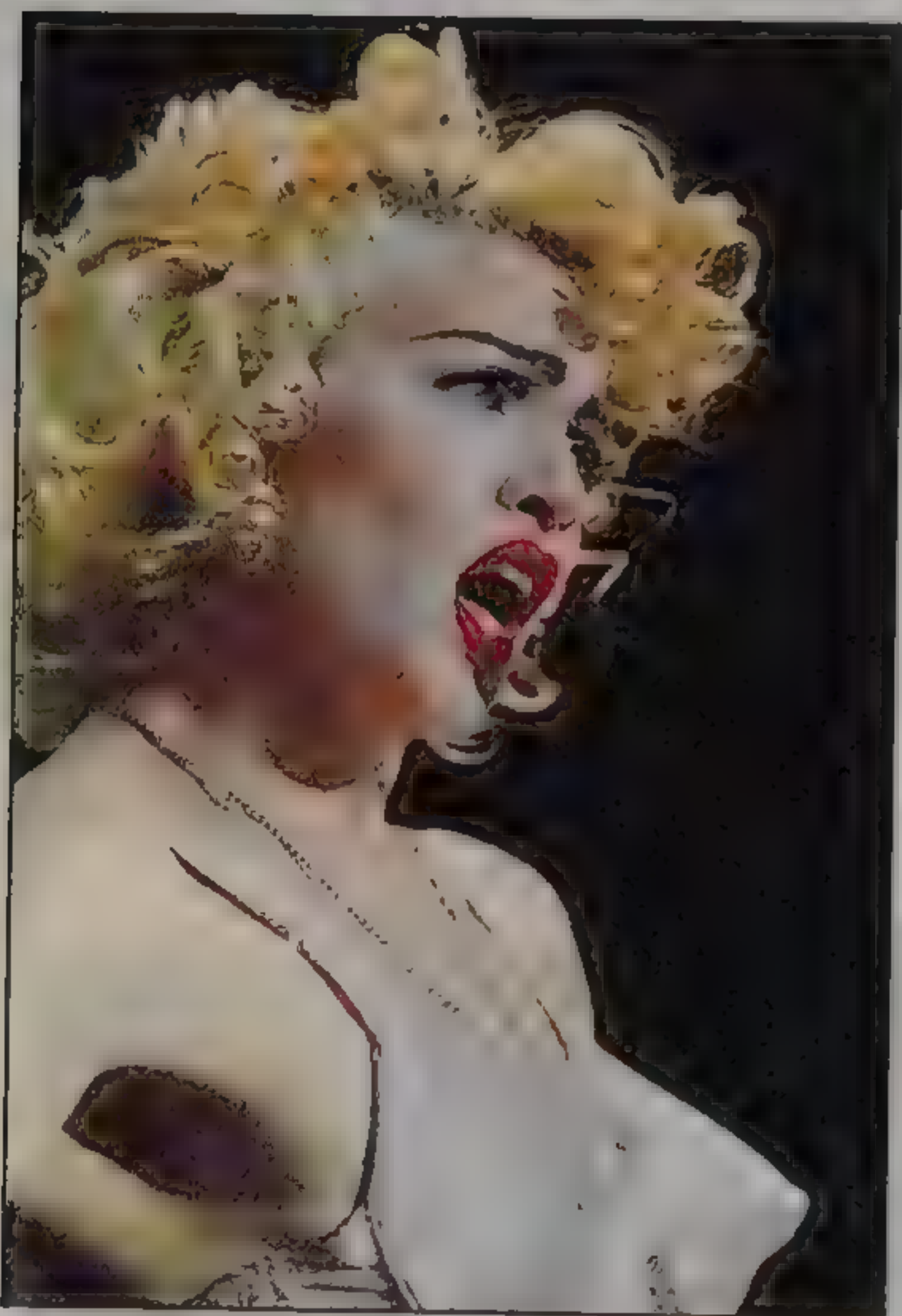
Tina Turner



Frank Sinatra



Michael Jackson



Madonna



Elvis Presley



The Rolling Stones



destroyed in the 17th century and is now being rebuilt exactly as it was.

**globe-trot-ter** /'gləʊbrɒtəʃ-/-trɒz-/ *n* *infml* a person who travels a lot — **ting** *adj, n*

**glob-u-lar** /'glɒbjʊləʃ-/'glɑː-/ *adj* in the form of a globule or globe

**glob-ule** /'glɒbjʊːl-/'glɑː-/ *n* a small drop of a liquid or melted solid; **BLOB**: *Globules of wax fell from the candle.*

**glock-en-spiel** /'glɒkənspiːl-/'glɑː-/ *n* a musical instrument made up of a set of flat metal bars of different lengths each of which gives out a different musical note, played by striking with two small hammers

**gloom** /gluːm/ *n* 1 [S;U] a feeling of deep sadness or hopelessness: *The news of defeat filled them all with gloom.* | *A deep gloom settled on them when they heard the company was going to close down.* | *to spread gloom and despondency* | **gloom and doom** 2 [U] *esp. lit* darkness: *We inched forwards in the gathering gloom.*

**gloom-y** /'gluːmi/ *adj* 1 almost dark, *esp. in an unpleasant way*: *a gloomy day* 2 having or giving little hope or cheerfulness: *He's such a gloomy chap; you can never get him to smile.* | *Our future seems gloomy.* — **ily** *adv* — **iness** *n* [U]

**glop** /glɒp-/'glɑːp/ *n* [U] *AmE sl derog* a thick liquid mass, usu. of unwanted food: *What is this glop?*

**glo-ri-fy** /'glɒːrɪfaɪ/ *v* [T] 1 to give (sometimes undeserved) glory or fame to: *Her brave deeds were glorified in song and story.* | *Many modern films glorify war and violence.* 2 to give praise and thanks to (God); worship (God) 3 [(with)] *infml* to cause to appear more important than in reality; give sthg. a name which it does not deserve: *I wouldn't glorify it with the name of a dictionary; it's more of a phrase book.* | *She calls it a country house, but I call it a glorified bungalow!* — **fication** /'glɒːrɪfɪ'keɪʃən/ *n*

**glo-ri-ous** /'glɒːrɪəs/ *adj* 1 having or deserving great fame, honour, and admiration: *a glorious victory* | *the glorious dead* 2 beautiful and splendid: *glorious colours* | *a glorious day* 3 *infml* very enjoyable: *We had a glorious time at the seaside.* — **ly** *adv*: *a gloriously sunny day*

**Glorious Rev-o-lu-tion** /'glɒːrɪəs-/'rɒljʊ-/'leɪʃən/ [the] the time in British history (1688–89) when King James II was removed from power, and his daughter Mary and her husband William of Orange became joint rulers. It was also called the **Bloodless Revolution**.

**Glorious Twelfth** /'glɒːrɪəs-/'twelfθ/ [the] August 12th, the date when the season for the sport of shooting GROUSE begins. There is a race to see who can eat the first GROUSE in expensive restaurants in London.

**glo-ry** /'glɒːri/ *n* 1 [U] great fame, honour, and admiration: *Those who died bravely in battle earned everlasting glory.* | *He can hardly be said to have emerged from that episode covered in/with glory.* (=regarded favourably by everyone) | *Her son has been honoured by the President, so she's basking in reflected glory.* (=the glory of another, usu. closely related, person) 2 [U] beautiful and splendid appearance: *The bright moonlight showed the Taj Mahal in all its glory.* | *After years of decay, this fine old theatre has now been restored to its former glory.* 3 [(the) C+of] something that is esp. beautiful or gives cause for pride: *When that bush comes into flower it is the glory of the whole garden.* | *Being knighted by the Queen was the crowning glory of his long and successful career.* | *the cultural glories of China* 4 [U] praise, honour, and thanks: *Glory be to God!* — see also **MORNING GLORY**

**glory**<sup>2</sup> *v*

**glory in** sthg. *phr v* [T] 1 to be very happy about; get great pleasure from: *They gloried in their new freedom.* 2 *derog* to enjoy in an unpleasant or selfish way: *She gloried in the fact that she had beaten everyone else.* | *He accused the government of glorying in slaughter.*

**glory hole** /'glɒːri-/'həʊl/ *n* *BrE old-fash infml* a room, cupboard, or drawer where unwanted articles are left; esp. a room which is very untidy, causing embarrassment

**gloss**<sup>1</sup> /glɒs-/'glɒːs, 'glɑːs/ *n* [S;U] 1 shiny brightness on a surface: *the gloss on a polished table/on her hair* — compare **MAT**<sup>2</sup>, **MATT** 2 a pleasant but deceiving outer appearance: *They hide their dislike for each other under a surface gloss of good manners.* 3 an explanation of a

piece of writing, esp. in the form of a note at the end of a page or book: *Some of Shakespeare's language is so different from today's that I could never understand it without the gloss.* — compare **GLOSSARY**

**gloss**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T] to provide a GLOSS<sup>1</sup> (3) for: *In this dictionary we often gloss difficult expressions with an explanation in brackets.*

**gloss over** sthg. *phr v* [T] to speak well of (something bad), usu. with the intention of deceiving or hiding faults: *The company's annual report tried to gloss over recent heavy losses, but angry shareholders forced the chairman to explain them.*

**glos-sa-ry** /'glɒsəri-/'glɒː-, 'glɑː-/ *n* a list of explanations of words, esp. unusual ones, at the end of a book — compare **GLOSS**<sup>1</sup>

**gloss paint** /'glɒs-/'peɪnt/ *n* [U] paint which is shiny when it dries, used esp. on wood inside and outside buildings — compare **EMULSION PAINT**

**gloss-y** /'glɒsi-/'glɒːsi, 'glɑːsi/ *adj* shiny and smooth: *Our cat has glossy black fur.* — **iness** *n* [U]

**glossy mag-a-zine** /'glɒsɪ-/'mægə-/'ziːn/ also **glossy infml** — *n* *esp. BrE* a magazine printed on good quality paper with a shiny surface, usu. having lots of colour pictures

**glot-tal stop** /'glɒt-/'stɒp/ *n* *tech* a speech sound made by completely closing and then opening the glottis, which in English may take the place of /t/ between vowel sounds or may be used before a vowel sound

**glot-tis** /'glɒtɪs-/'glɑː-/ *n* the space between the **VOCAL CORDS** (=the fleshy parts of the air passage inside the throat), which produce the sound of the voice by movements in which this space is repeatedly opened and closed — see picture at **RESPIRATORY** — **tal** *adj*

**Glouces-ter** /'glɒstə-/'glɑː-/ 1 a **CATHEDRAL** town on the river Severn in SW England, where the local government for Gloucestershire is based 2 also **double Gloucester** — a kind of hard cheese originally from the area around Gloucester

**Glouces-ter-shire** /'glɒstəʃə-/'glɑːstər-/ a **COUNTY** in SW England

**gloves**



**glove** /glʌv/ *n* 1 a **GARMENT** which covers the hand, esp. one with separate parts for the thumb and each finger: *woollen/leather gloves* — compare **MITTEN** 2 a large leather glove used in **BOXING** 3 a large leather glove used in **BASEBALL** — see **PAIR (USAGE)**; see also **KID GLOVES**, **hand in glove** (**HAND**<sup>1</sup>), **the iron hand/fist in the velvet glove** (**IRON**<sup>1</sup>)

**glove com-part-ment** /'glɒv-/'kɒmpɑːt-/'ment/ also **glove box** /'glɒv-/'bɒks/ *n* a small space or shelf in a car in front of the passenger seat, where small articles may be kept — see picture at **CAR**

**gloved** /glʌvd/ *adj* [A] (of a hand) wearing a glove

**glove pup-pet** /'glɒv-/'pʊp-/'pet/ *n* a **PUPPET** (2)

**Glov-er** /'glɒvə-/'/ **Jane** (1949– ) a musical **CONDUCTOR**, known for her television programmes on music

**glow**<sup>1</sup> /gləʊ/ *v* [I (with)] 1 to give out heat and/or soft light without flames or smoke: *The iron bar was heated until it glowed.* | *The cat's eyes glowed in the darkness.* | (fig.) *It was painted in glowing colours.* 2 to show redness and heat, esp. in the face, e.g. after hard work or because of strong feelings: *She was glowing with health and happiness.* | *His cheeks glowed with embarrassment.* | (fig.) *She glowed with pride at her son's achievements.* — see also **GLOWING**; compare **GLEAM**, **GLIMMER**

**glow**<sup>2</sup> *n* [S] 1 a soft light from something burning without flames or smoke: *There was a dull red glow in the night sky above the steelworks.* 2 brightness of colour: *the warm glow of copper pans in the kitchen* 3 [(of)] the feeling and/or signs of heat and colour in the body and face, e.g. after exercise or because of good health: *the glow of*



**health** 4 [+of] a strong feeling: *She felt a glow of pride/of satisfaction at her son's achievements.*

**glow-er** /'gləʊə/ *v* [I (at)] to look with an angry expression; GLARE: *Instead of answering he just glowered (at me)/gave me a glowering look.* | (fig.) *The glowering clouds promised rain.* — **~ingly** *adv*

**glow-ing** /'gləʊɪŋ/ *adj* showing strong approval; very favourable: *She gave a glowing description of the film, which made me want to see it for myself.* | *The director referred to your work in glowing terms.* — **~ly** *adv*

**glow-worm** /'gləʊwɜːm/ *n* an insect whose female has no wings and gives out a greenish light from the end of its tail

**glu-cose** /'gluːkəʊs/ *n* [U] a natural form of sugar found in fruit and used in the body

**glue**¹ /gluː/ *n* [U] a sticky substance which is made chemically or obtained from animal or fish bones and is used for joining things together: *Put a dab of glue on each corner.* | *a tube of glue*

**glue**² *v* present participle **gluing** or **glueing** [T] 1 to join or stick with glue: *It's no use tying it; you'll have to glue it.* | *She glued down the corner of the paper.* | *I glued the broken pieces together.* 2 **glued to** *infml* continually close to, looking at, or directed towards: *I stayed glued to his side because I was so afraid of getting lost.* | *The children have been glued to the television all day.* | *She stood there as if glued to the spot.* (=unable to move)

**glue ear** /'gluː.ə/ *n* [U] an illness of the ear which can prevent people from hearing properly

**glue-snif-fing** /'gluː.sniːfɪŋ/ also **solvent abuse** *fml*— *n* [U] the harmful breathing in of FUMES of glue or similar substances through the nose or mouth to produce a state of excitement or changed consciousness. It is illegal to sell certain kinds of glue to children in case it is used for glue-sniffing, which can sometimes cause death. — **fer** *n*

**glue-y** /'gluːi/ *adj* 1 sticky like glue 2 covered with glue

**glum** /glʌm/ *adj* -**mm-** sad; in low spirits; GLOOMY: *"You look very glum."* | *"I've just lost all my money."* — **~ly** *adv* — **~ness** *n* [U]

**glut**¹ /glʌt/ *n* [(of) *usu. sing.*] a larger supply than is necessary: *There was a glut of oil (on the market) a few months ago.* | (fig. *derog*) *a glut of old films on television*

**glut**² *v* -**tt-** [T often *pass.*] to supply with too much; overfill: *The shops are glutted with apples because of this year's record crop.*

**glu-ten** /'gluːtɪn/ *n* [U] a sticky PROTEIN substance that is found in flour made from wheat

**glu-ti-nous** /'gluːtɪnəs/ *adj fml* sticky: *a bowl of glutinous rice*

**glut-ton** /'glʌtn/ *n* 1 *derog* a person who eats too much 2 [+**for**] *infml* a person who is always ready to do or accept something hard or unpleasant: *She kept coming to work even when she was ill: she's a real glutton for punishment!*

**glut-ton-ous** /'glʌtənəs/ *adj derog* like a glutton; GREEDY, esp. for food — **~ly** *adv*

**glut-ton-y** /'glʌtəni/ *n* [U] *fml derog* the habit of eating (and drinking) too much. Gluttony is one of the Seven Deadly Sins. — see also SEVEN DEADLY SINS

**gly-ce-rine**, -**rin** /'glɪsərɪn/ *n* [U] a sweet sticky colourless liquid made from fats, which is used in making soap, medicines, and explosives, and in some foods to help them to set

**Glynde-bourne** /'glɪndəʊn/ -**bɔːrn**/ a 16th-century country house in a village in the south of England, now famous as a place where there is an annual OPERA FESTIVAL. The operas are attended esp. by rich, UPPER-CLASS people.

**gm** *written abbrev. for:* GRAM

**GM** /,dʒiː 'em/ *abbrev. for:* GENERAL MOTORS

**GMC** /,dʒiː em 'siː/ [*the*] General Medical Council; the professional organization to which British doctors have to belong

**G-Men** /'dʒiː men/ *n* [P] *old fash AmE* government men; a name used in the 1930s for men working for the FBI

**GMT** /,ɡɪ.ə 'tiː/ *abbrev. for:* GREENWICH MEAN TIME

**gnarled** /nɑːld/ -**nɑːrld**/ *adj* 1 (of a tree or its trunk or branches) rough and twisted, with hard lumps, esp. as a result of age 2 (of hands and fingers) twisted, with swollen joints and rough skin, esp. as a result of hard

work or old age 3 (of a person) rough in appearance, as if from many years in rough wind and weather: *a gnarled old fisherman*

**gnash** /næʃ/ *v* [T] to strike (one's teeth) together: *gnashing his teeth in fury* — see also **wailing** and **gnashing of teeth** (WAIL) — **gnash** *n*

**gnat** /næt/ *n* a small flying insect that stings: *a gnat bite* | *a cloud of gnats*

**gnaw** /nɔː/ *v* [I (AWAY, at); T] to keep biting steadily on (something hard), esp. so as to make a hole or until it is destroyed: *The dog gnawed (away at) the bone.* | *Rats can gnaw holes in wood.* | *She gnawed anxiously at her fingernails.* | (fig.) *The problem's been gnawing at me* (=worrying me) *for some time.*

**gnaw-ing** /'nɔːɪŋ/ *adj* [A] painful or worrying, esp. in a small but continuous way: *gnawing hunger/anxiety*

**gneiss** /naɪs/ *n* [U] a hard rock with light and dark bands formed from earlier rocks which were pressed together under heat

**gnome** /nəʊm/ *n* 1 (in children's stories) a little (old) man who lives under the ground and guards stores of gold, silver, jewels, etc. 2 a (stone or plastic) figure representing this: *a garden gnome* 3 **the gnomes of Zurich** *infml* certain powerful bankers, esp. Swiss ones, who are said to control supplies of money to foreign governments

**garden gnomes**



**Gnos-tic Gos-pels** /,nɒstɪk

'gɒspəlz/ -**nɔːstɪk** 'gɑːs-/ *n* [*the*+P] ancient writings which are believed by some people to have once been part of the BIBLE, and to have been taken out by early priests who disagreed with their messages

**GNP** /,dʒiː en 'piː/ [*the*] Gross National Product; the total value of all the goods and services produced in a country, *usu.* in a single year — compare GDP

**gnu** /nuː/ also **wildebeest**— *n* **gnu** or **gnus** a large southern African animal with a tail and curved horns

**go**¹ /gəʊ/ *v* **went** /went/, **gone** /ɡɒn/ [*3rd person sing. present goes*] to move or travel 1 [I] to leave a place (so as to reach another); DEPART: *I wanted to go, but she wanted to stay.* | *It's late; I must go/I must be going.* | *When does the train go?* | *He went early.* | *I left my pen on the desk and now it's gone; who's taken it?* | (fig.) *The summer is going fast.* — see USAGE; see also **be going to** (GO¹); compare **COME**¹ 2 [I+*adv/prep*] to travel or move in a particular way or in a particular direction: *We went by bus.* | *It can go by post.* | *He went away and left me.* | *The car's going too fast.* | *Where are you going?* | *We went to France for our holidays.* | *We're going* (=are intending to go) *to my parents' for Christmas.* | *His hand went to his pocket.* | (fig.) *Your suggestion will go* (=be sent) *before the committee.* | (fig.) *I don't know where all my money goes (to)!* 3 [I+*v-ing*] a to (travel somewhere in order to) do the stated activity: *He's gone shopping.* | *We're going swimming this afternoon.* | *She went house-hunting at the weekend.* **b** *infml* to perform the stated undesirable action: *Don't go blaming yourself!* | *It's a secret, so don't go telling everyone about it!* to be in or pass into a particular state 4 [L+*adj*] to pass into a different, often less favourable state, either by a natural change or by changing on purpose; become: *Her hair's/She's going grey.* | *The milk went sour.* | *He's gone mad.* | *This used to be a state school, but it's gone independent.* | *The company has gone bankrupt.* | *He went white with anger.* — see BECOME (USAGE) 5 [L+*adv/adj*] to be or remain in a particular *usu.* undesirable state: *After his enemy's threats he went in fear of his life.* | *Her complaints went unnoticed.* | *Should a murderer go free/go unpunished?* | *When the crops fail, the people go hungry.* 6 [I] to become weak, damaged, or worn out: *My voice has gone because of my cold.* | *These old shoes are beginning to go.* to start an activity or perform an action 7 [I] to start an action or activity: *All the preparations for the project have been completed, so we're ready to go.* | *The signal to begin a race is "One, two, three, go!" or "Ready, steady, go!"* | *If we don't get going on this work soon it'll never be ready in time.* 8 [I] (of a machine) to work (properly): *This clock*



doesn't go. | *I can't get the car to go.* **9** [T] a to make the stated sound: *Ducks go "quack".* | *The guns went "boom".* **b** nonstandard to say: *So then she goes "Don't you ever do that again!", and he laughs.* **10** [I+adv/prep] to make a particular movement: *When he was explaining it, he went like this with his hands.* ■ other meanings **11** [I+adv/prep; not in progressive forms] to reach (as far as stated): *Which road goes to the station?* | *The valley goes from east to west.* | *The roots of the plant go deep.* | *The belt's too short — it won't go round my waist.* | (fig.) *She's very talented; I'm sure she'll go far.* (=be very successful) | (fig.) *A pound doesn't go far* (=buy much) *these days.* **12** [I not in progressive forms] a to fit: *Your foot's too big — it won't go (into the shoe).* **b** [(into)] to divide a certain number, esp. so as to give an exact figure: *Three into two won't go.* | *Two goes into ten five times.* **13** [I+adv/prep; not in progressive forms] to be placed, esp. usually placed: *The chairs can go against that wall.* | *Which cupboard do these plates go in?* **14** [I (for, to)] to be sold: *The house went for £30,000.* | *The oranges were going cheap, so I bought ten.* | *Each lot will go to the highest bidder.* | "Any more bids for this lot, the silver tray?" said the auctioneer; "going ... going ... gone!" (=I have sold it) **15** [I] (with **must, can, have to**) to be got rid of: *The car must go — we can't afford it any more.* | *It's no use; that secretary will have to go. She can't even spell!* **16** [I+adv/prep; not in progressive forms] to be stated, said, or sung in a particular way: *I can't remember how this poem goes.* | *The tune goes something like this.* [+that] *The story goes that he was murdered by his wife.* **17** [I; not in progressive forms] to (have to) be accepted or acceptable: *As far as my boss is concerned, anything goes.* (=we can do what we like) | *You may not like it, but he's in charge and what he says goes.* **18** [I+adv/prep] to happen or develop in the stated way: *The party went well.* | **How are things going/infm!** **How's it going/(old-fash)** **How goes it?** (=Is everything happening satisfactorily?) | *Everything's going fine/nicely/swimmingly at the moment.* | (BrE fm!) *It will go hard with any boy caught cheating.* (=he will be in serious trouble) **19** [I] euph to die: *Now her husband's gone/dead and gone, she's all on her own.* ■ fixed phrases **20** **as/so far as something goes** up to but not beyond the limits of something's quality; in itself: *A bike's quite good as far as it goes, but you need a car to be really mobile.* **21** **as someone/something goes** compared with the average person or thing of that type: *She's not a bad cook, as cooks go, but she's no expert.* | *It's cheap, as these things go.* **22** **be going infml** to be present for use or enjoyment: *Is there any food going?* **23** **be going to (do or happen)** (showing the future; not usu. in sentences containing a condition) **a** (of a person) to intend to: *He's going to buy her some shoes.* (compare *He'll buy her some shoes if she asks him to.*) | *They're going (to go) to Cairo next year.* | *She's going to ring us from the station.* **b** (of a thing or event that cannot be controlled) to be certain to, or expected to, at some time in the future: *Is it going to rain?* | *I'm going to be sick!* | *She's going to have a baby.* —see GONNA (USAGE) **24** **go and:** **a** to go in order to: *I'll just go and get my pen.* | *It's time you went and saw your mother.* —compare **try and** (TRY<sup>1</sup>) **b** infml (often used for expressing surprise) to do the stated thing: *He's gone and ordered a brand new car!* | *You've really gone and done it now!* (=done something terrible)

▷ USAGE In AmE "and" is sometimes left out after "go", but never after "went" or "gone": *Someone's at the door—go see who it is.* | *I'm just about to go do my homework.* ◁

**25** **go as far as** || also **so far as** BrE to make such a strong statement or take such strong action as: *I wouldn't go so far as to say he's handsome, but he's certainly quite nice-looking.* **26** **go it** BrE old-fash to go at a very fast speed: *To get from London to Glasgow in six hours by car is certainly going it!* **27** **go it alone** to act independently: *She's decided to go it alone and start her own business.* **28** **go one better** to do better; go beyond: *Very impressive; but I can go one better (than you): I actually spoke to the Queen!* **29** **go steady** old-fash (of a boy and girl) to go out together regularly: *They've been going steady for years.* **30** **go too far** to go beyond the limits of what is considered reasonable: *I know he was rude to you, but I think you went too far, insulting his wife like that.* **31** **to go:** **a** still remaining before something happens: *Only three days to go before/to Christmas!* **b** AmE (of cooked food sold in a shop) to be taken away and not eaten in the

shop: *Two chicken dinners with corn to go!* —compare TAKEAWAY **32** **that's the way it goes** (an expression used when trying not to feel unhappy about something that has failed, or about bad news) good things and bad things happen, according to chance, and there is nothing you can do about it: *Your sister can't come to visit? Oh well, that's the way it goes.* **33** **-goer** [gəʊə<sup>r</sup>] a person who goes regularly to the stated place or activity: *churchgoers* | *filmgoers* —see also GOER **34** **-going** [gəʊɪŋ]/(in [A] adjectives and [U] nouns) (the activity of) going regularly to the stated place or activity: *the theatregoing public* | *churchgoing* —see also GOING<sup>1,2</sup>, GONE

▷ USAGE The usual past participle of **go** is **gone**, but if we mean "visit" or "go to a place then leave it" it is **been**. Compare: *George has gone to Paris.* (=he's there now) | *George has been to Paris.* (=he's visited Paris in the past) | *The doctor hasn't gone yet.* (=he's still in the house) | *The doctor hasn't been yet.* (=he has not yet visited the house) ◁

#### ■ phrasal verbs

**go about** *phr v* **1** [T] (**go about** sthg.) to perform or do: *It was a typical Monday morning and people were going about their work/their business in the usual way.* **2** [T] (**go about** sthg.) also **set about**— to begin working at; TACKLE: *That's not the best way to go about it.* [+v-ing] *I wouldn't have the first idea how to go about mending a clock.* **3** [I] (of a ship) to turn round to face in the opposite direction **4** [I+with/TOGETHER] **to go around** (2) **go after** sthg./sbdy. *phr v* [T pass. rare] to try to obtain or win; chase: *to go after a job/a girl/a prize*

**go against** sbdy./sthg. *phr v* [T no pass.] **1** to act in opposition to: *She went against her mother's wishes.* **2** to be unfavourable to (someone): *Opinion is going against us.* | *The case may go against you.* (=you may lose it) **3** to be opposite to; not be in agreement with (something): *It would go against my principles to work for a company that manufactured weapons.*

**go ahead** *phr v* [I] **1** to go in advance of others: *You go (on) ahead; we'll catch up with you later.* **2** [(with)] to begin: *Go ahead, we're all listening.* | *The council gave us permission to go ahead with our building plans.* | "Do you mind if I smoke?" "Go ahead." (=No, I do not mind.) **3** to continue; advance: *Work is going ahead.* —see also GO-AHEAD

**go along** *phr v* [I] to continue with an activity, movement, plan, etc.; PROCEED: *I like to add up my bank account as I go along.* | *You'll get more used to the job as you go along.*

**go along with** sbdy./sthg. *phr v* [T] **1** to agree with; support: *They were quite happy to go along with our suggestion.* | *I'd go along with you there.* **2** **Go along with you!** BrE infml I don't believe you!

**go around** *phr v* [I] **1** [usu. in progressive forms] also **go round**— (of an illness) to spread: *There are a lot of very bad colds going around at the moment.* **2** [+with/TOGETHER] also **go about**— to be often out in public (with someone): *Why do you go around with such strange people?* **3** to be enough for everyone; **GO round**

**go at** sthg. *phr v* [T no pass.] infml to deal with or begin to do with great force or effort; TACKLE: *He went at his breakfast as if he hadn't eaten for days.*

**go back** *phr v* [I] **1** to return to a former place, state, method, etc.: *Let's go back home now.* | *If the new arrangement doesn't work out, we'll go back to the old one.* | *Let's go back to what the chairman said earlier.* **2** [+adv/prep] to have one's origins in (an earlier time): *Some of the university buildings go back as far as medieval times.* **3** to have been friends with for (a long time): *He and I go back years and years.*

**go back on** sbdy./sthg. *phr v* [T pass. rare] to break or not keep (a promise, agreement, etc.): *He went back on his word and refused to lend us the money.*

**go by** *phr v* **1** [I] to pass (in place or time): *A car went by.* | *Two years went by.* | *She let the chance go by.* (=lost it) **2** [T no pass.] (**go by** sthg.) to act according to; be guided by: *He always goes by the rules.* | *Don't go by that old map; it might be out of date.* **3** [T no pass.] (**go by** sthg.) to judge by: *Going by her clothes, she must be very rich.*

**go down** *phr v* [I] **1** to become lower in price, value, level, quantity, etc.: *The standard of work has gone down.* | *The (value of the) dollar has gone down again.* | *Eggs are going down (in price).* | *He's gone down in my opinion since I discovered his political views.* | *This*



*neighbourhood has gone down* (=to a lower social level) *in the last few years.* **2** to sink; disappear from sight or below a surface: *Three ships went down in the storm.* | *The sun is going down.* **3** to become less swollen: *My ankle has gone down, so I should be able to walk again soon.* | *This tyre's going down; I'll pump it up.* **4** (of a computer or machine) to stop working suddenly: *The central computer went down this morning, so we can't check whether that's been paid or not.* **5** [+adv/prep] to be accepted: *Her speech went down well (with the crowd).* **6** (of food and drink) to pass down the throat: *The pills wouldn't go down so I dissolved them in some water.* **7** AmE to happen: *"What's going down, bro?"* | *"We're going out to see what's going down."* **8** [+adv/prep, esp. in] to be recorded: *This day will go down in history.* **9** [+adv/prep, esp. to] to reach as far as: *The mountains go right down to the sea.* **10** [(from, to)] BrE to leave a university after a period of study, or a city for a less important place: *He went down without taking a degree.* | *We're going down to the country for the weekend.* **11** [(for)] sl to be sent to prison: *He went down for five years.* **12** **go down the tubes/drain** *infml, derog* to become poorer in quality: *This place has really gone down the tubes.*

**go down with sthg.** *phr v* [T no pass.] *infml* to catch (an infectious illness): *They all went down with scarlet fever.*

**go for sbdy./sthg.** *phr v* [T no pass.] **1** to attack, physically or with words: *Our dog went for the postman this morning!* | *She really went for me when I came in late.* **2** to try to obtain or win: *I hear you're going to go for that job in the accounts department.* | *Smith is going for gold* (=will try to win the GOLD MEDAL) *in the 200 metres.* **3** to choose or take: *When you offer him sweets he always goes for the biggest one.* **4** to like or be attracted by: *Do you go for modern music?* | *I don't go for men of his type.* **5** to concern or be true for (someone or something): *I think this report is badly done, and that goes for all the other work done in this office.* | *He thought the lunch was terrible, and the same goes for all the rest of us too.* (=we also thought it was terrible) **6** **Go for it!** *infml* do it; try it; get it (said about something exciting): *I think the team's got the ball — go for it!* **7** **go for nothing** to be wasted; have no result: *All my hard work went for nothing.*

**go in** *phr v* [I] **1** (of the sun, moon, etc.) to become covered by cloud **2** [(with)] to join: *They invited me to go in with them to form a new company.*

**go in for sthg.** *phr v* [T] **1** to take part in (a test of skill or knowledge); enter: *to go in for a competition* | *Several people went in for the race.* **2** to make a habit of (doing), esp. for enjoyment: *I don't go in for sports.* [+v-ing] *I've never gone in (much) for dancing.*

**go into sthg.** *phr v* [T] **1** [no pass.] to enter (a profession, state of life, etc.): *She plans to go into politics when she leaves university.* | *He went into business as an undertaker.* **2** [no pass.] to be put into: *Three years' work has gone into this scheme.* **3** to explain in depth: *He didn't go into details, but I gather from what he said that she was seriously injured.* | *This new textbook goes into all the complexities of grammatical theory.* **4** to examine thoroughly: *There's something mysterious about his death; it'll have to be gone into by the police.*

**go off** *phr v* **1** [I] **a** to explode: *Don't touch that unexploded bomb; it might go off!* **b** to ring or sound loudly: *The alarm went off when the thieves got in.* **2** [I] to stop operating: *The heating goes off at night.* | *The lights went off.* **3** [I+adv/prep] to happen in the stated way; COME OFF (2): *The conference went off very well* (= was a success). **4** [I] (of food) to go bad: *This milk has gone off.* **5** [I] BrE to stop being felt: *The pain went off after three treatments.* **6** [T] (**go off sthg./sbdy.**) **a** BrE *infml* to lose interest in or liking for: *I've gone off coffee recently.* [+v-ing] *Mary and I have gone off cooking, so we live on salads these days.* **b** AmE to stop using, eating, or drinking something: *The doctor said to go off coffee and chocolate.* **7** [I] BrE *infml* to go down from a higher level of skill, quality, interest, etc.: *The lessons have gone off since we had a new teacher.* | *The book goes off after the first 50 pages.*

**go off with sthg./sbdy.** *phr v* [T] **1** *infml* to take away without permission: *Someone's gone off with my pen!* **2** to leave one's marriage partner and start living with (someone else): *He went off with his secretary.*

**go on** *phr v* **1** [I] to take place or happen: *There's a children's party going on next door.* | *What's going on here?* | *Their secretive behaviour made me suspect there was some-*

*thing illegal going on.* —see also GOINGS-ON **2** [I] to begin to operate: *I've set the heating to go on at six o'clock.* | *The lights went on.* **3** [T no pass.] (**go on sthg.**) **a** to use as a reason, proof, or base for further action: *We were just going on what Aunt Jess told us of the situation.* | *A bloody handkerchief and the name "Margaret" were all the police had to go on to catch the killer.* **b** to start using (a drug): *I'm going on the birth control pill next week.* | *to go on tranquilizers* **4** [I] to go in advance of others; GO AHEAD: *You go on; we'll catch up with you later.* **5** [I] (of time) to pass: *As time went on, things began to change.* | *As the day went on, it became hotter.* **6** [I (with)] **a** to continue without stopping or without change: *Go on with your work.* | *We can't go on like this — I want a divorce!* [+v-ing] *She didn't want to go on being a secretary all her life, so she went back to college.* **b** to continue talking, esp. after stopping or in order to pass to a new subject: *Go on, I'm listening.* | *He paused for a sip of coffee, then went on with his story.* [+to-v] *After describing the planned improvements, she went on to explain how much they would cost.* —see also ONGOING **7** [I+adv/prep] to behave continually in a certain way: *If he goes on like this he'll lose his job.* | *To judge by the way she's going on, she's very nervous about something.* **8** [I (at)] to keep complaining or criticizing: *She's always going on at her husband.* **9** [I] *infml* to keep talking to the point of being annoying: *He does go on so!* | *She goes on and on.* **10** [I] *infml* to advance or develop; GET ON: *How's the work going on?* **11** **Go on (with you)!** *infml* I don't believe you! **12** **to go/be going on with** *infml, esp. BrE* (to use) for the present time: *Here's £30 to be going on with; I'll give you some more tomorrow.*

**go out** *phr v* [I] **1** to leave the house, esp. for amusement: *She's gone out for a walk.* | *He goes out drinking two or three times a week.* **2** [(TOGETHER, with)] to spend time, esp. regularly (with someone of the opposite sex): *They've been going out (together) for two years.* **3** [(to)] to travel to a usu. distant place, esp. in order to live there: *My friends went out to Australia.* **4** to be made public, be sent: *Have the notices all gone out?* **5** (of a fire, light, etc.) to stop burning or shining: *Without more coal, the fire will soon go out.* | (fig.) *As soon as he got into bed, he went out like a light.* (=went to sleep very quickly) **6** (of the sea) to go back to its low level: *The tide's going out.* —opposite COME IN **7** to stop being fashionable: *Short skirts went out some time ago.* —opposite COME IN **8** [+adv/prep, esp. to] *fml* (of feelings) to be in sympathy (with): *Our thoughts go out to our friends abroad.* **9** [+adv/prep] *esp. lit* (of time) to end: *March went out with high winds and rain.*

**go over** *phr v* **1** [T] (**go over sthg.**) **a** to visit and examine: *We went over several houses before we found the one we wanted.* **b** to look at and examine for a purpose; CHECK: *We went over the accounts very thoroughly but couldn't find any mistakes.* —see also GOING-OVER **2** [T] (**go over sthg.**) to repeat: *If they don't understand it the first time, go over it (again) until they do.* **3** [I+adv/prep] (of a performance) to be received in the stated way: *His speech went over well.* **4** [I+from/to] to change (one's political party, religion, etc.): *He went over from the Democrats to the Republicans.* | *I've gone over to (eating) vegetarian food.* **5** [I (to)] (in television or radio) to cause the broadcast to be made from another place: *We're now going over to the House of Commons for an important announcement.*

**go round** *phr v* [I] **1** also **go around**— to be enough for everyone: *If there aren't enough chairs to go round, some people will have to stand.* **2** (of an illness) to spread; GO AROUND **3** (of words, ideas, etc.) to be continuously present: *There's a tune going round in my head.*

**go slow** *phr v* [I] BrE to refuse to put more than the least amount of effort into one's work, as a form of STRIKE —see also GO-SLOW

**go through** *phr v* **1** [T] (**go through sthg.**) to suffer or experience; ENDURE: *The country has gone/been through too many wars.* | *I admire the way she's still so cheerful after all she's been through.* **2** [T] (**go through sthg.**) to use up; to finish; GET THROUGH (2): *Have you gone through all your money already?* **3** [I; T (=go through sthg.)] (of a law, etc.) to pass through or be accepted (by): *The bill has gone through (Parliament) without a vote.* | *The plan must go through several stages.* **4** [T] (**go through sthg.**) to practise (a ceremony or performance): *Let's go through it again, this time with the music.* **5** [T] (**go through sthg.**) to look at or examine carefully: *I'm*



sure it's there — I'll go through the file again. | She went through his jacket pockets and eventually found the keys.

**go through** with sthg. *phr v* [T] to complete (something which has been agreed or planned), often with difficulty: *He promised to marry her, but now he doesn't want to go through with it.*

**go to** sthg. *phr v* [T no pass.] 1 to cause oneself to experience: *He went to a lot of trouble for me.* | *They went to great expense to educate their children.* | *They went to great lengths (=took a lot of trouble) to ensure that no one would find out the truth.* 2 to start experiencing or causing (a state or action): *Be quiet; I'm trying to go to sleep.* | *Britain and Germany went to war in 1939.* —see also **go to pieces** (PIECE<sup>1</sup>)

**go together** *phr v* [I] 1 (of two or more things) to match or suit each other 2 *AmE, infml* (usu. said by older children) to go steady (STEADY<sup>3</sup>): *We're going together.* | *Do you want to go together?*

**go under** *phr v* [I] 1 (of a ship or floating object) to sink below the surface 2 to fail, be defeated, or get into difficulties: *Unless the company's sales improve soon, it will go under.*

**go up** *phr v* [I] 1 to rise; increase: *Prices have gone up again.* 2 to be built: *There are new houses going up everywhere round here.* 3 to explode or be destroyed in fire: *The whole house went up in flames.* —see also **go up in smoke** (SMOKE<sup>1</sup>) 4 (of the curtain on stage) to open and start the performance: *What time does the curtain go up?* 5 [(to)] *BrE* to go to a university, esp. to begin a course of study, or to a more important place: *to go up to London* 6 [+adv/prep, esp. to] to reach as far as: *The trees go right up to the riverbank.*

**go with** *phr v* [T no pass.] 1 to match or suit: *Mary's blue dress goes with her eyes.* | *Mint sauce goes well with roast lamb.* 2 to be gained with or included with, esp. as a result: *Happiness doesn't necessarily go with money.* [+v-ing] *Responsibility goes with becoming a father.* 3 *infml* to spend time socially, or (euph) sexually, with (someone of the opposite sex): *He goes with a different girl every week.* 4 *AmE, infml* to choose: *If I were you I'd go with the red one, Pete.* 5 **go with the crowd/the times/the stream/the flow** to behave or think in the same way as most people 6 **go with that/it** *AmE, infml* to continue to do or to develop something, such as a course of action or an idea: *I know university has been difficult, but go with it for just a while longer.*

**go without** (sthg.) *phr v* [I; T+obj/v-ing] 1 to succeed in living without (something); **do without**: *She went without sleep/without sleeping for five days.* | *We can't afford it, so we'll just have to go without.* 2 **it goes without saying** it is clear without needing to be stated: *If you take a job as a journalist, it goes without saying that sometimes you'll have to work at weekends.*

**go<sup>2</sup> n goes** *infml* 1 [C] esp. *BrE* one's turn, esp. in a game: *It's my go now.* 2 [C (at)] esp. *BrE* an attempt to do something: *"I can't open this jar." "Let me have a go."* | *He had several goes at the exam before he passed.* 3 [U] an active lively quality; **VITALITY**: *The children are full of go.* | *They run and play all day.* | *She's got plenty of go, and is sure to do well in her job.* —see also **GET-UP-AND-GO** 4 [C *usu. sing.*] *BrE* old-fash an (awkward or strange) state of affairs: *This is a bit of a rum go!* 5 (all) **the go** *BrE infml* very fashionable 6 **have a go** *infml, BrE* a to complain: *My boyfriend is sure to have a go at me for spending so much money.* b to attempt to catch or stop a wrongdoer by force: *This criminal may be armed, so the police advise the public against having a go.* 7 **it's all go** *BrE infml* it is very busy: *It's all go in the postal service at Christmas time!* 8 (it's) **no go** *infml* it has not happened or it will not happen: *I tried to persuade her to accept your plan, but (it was) no go, I'm afraid.* —see also **NO-GO AREA** 9 **make a go of** *infml a BrE* to make a success of: *Do you think they'll ever make a go of their marriage?* b *AmE* to try (to do something): *I think we can reach the top — do you want to make a go of it?* 10 **on the go** *infml* working all the time or very busy: *I've been on the go all day and I'm worn out.*

**goad<sup>1</sup>** /gəʊd/ *v* [T] 1 [(into, ON)] to cause (someone) to do something by strong or continued annoyance: *If you keep goading her with those insults she may turn nasty.* | *They goaded him into doing it by saying he was a coward.* | *He was tired of working but the need for money goaded him on.* 2 to drive (esp. cattle) with a goad

**goad<sup>2</sup> n** a sharp-pointed stick for driving cattle or other

animals forward: (fig.) *They needed the goad of threatened fines to make them take action.*

**go-a-head<sup>1</sup>** /'gəʊ.ə. / *n* [S] permission to take action: *We're ready to start the new building as soon as we get/we are given the go-ahead from the council.* —see also **GO ahead**

**go-ahead<sup>2</sup> adj** *BrE* active in using new methods; **PROGRESSIVE**: *It's a very go-ahead company; they were among the first to introduce profit-sharing.*

**goal** /gəʊl/ *n* 1 (in games such as football and HOCKEY) the area, usu. between two goalposts, where the ball, PUCK, etc., must go for a point to be gained: *He kicked the ball into the goal.* | (*BrE*) *He has kept goal (=been goalkeeper) for England.* —see picture at **SOCCER** 2 the point gained when the ball is caused to do this: *He scored a goal.* | *Brazil beat France by two goals to one.* 3 one's aim or purpose; a position or object one wishes to reach or obtain: *Her goal is a place at university.* | *The company has achieved all its goals this year.* | *Before starting on a project like this, you have to set yourself some clearly defined goals.* —see also **OWN GOAL**

**goal-keep-er** /'gəʊl.ki:pə/ also **goal-ie** /'gəʊli/ *infml* — *n* the player in a football or other sports team who is responsible for preventing the ball from getting into his or her team's goal: *The goalkeeper made a marvellous save.*

**goal kick** /'gəʊl.kɪk/ *n* (in football) a **FREE KICK** taken by the defending team when the ball is sent over the goal line by the opposing team

**goal line** /'gəʊl.laɪn/ *n* a line at either end and usu. running the width of a playing area, on which a **GOAL** (1) is placed

**goal-mouth** /'gəʊl.mauθ/ *n* the area directly in front of the **GOAL** (1)

**goal-post** /'gəʊl.pəʊst/ *n* [*usu. pl.*] one of the two posts, with a bar along the top or across the middle, and usu. with a net at the back, that form the **GOAL** (1) in games like football and HOCKEY —see also **move the goalposts** (MOVE<sup>1</sup>)

**goat** /gəʊt/ *n* 1 a horned animal related to the sheep, which also gives milk and wool, and which can climb steep hills and rocks and eat almost anything 2 esp. *BrE infml, esp. derog. or humor* a man who is very active sexually; esp. one who is old or not sexually attractive 3 **get someone's goat** *infml* to make someone extremely annoyed —see also **BILLY GOAT**, **KID<sup>1</sup>** (3), **NANNY GOAT**

goat



**goa-tee** /gəʊ'ti:/ *n* a little pointed beard on the bottom of the chin, like the hair on a male goat's chin

**goat-herd** /'gəʊθɜ:d||-hɜ:rd/ *n* a person who looks after a **FLOCK** (=a group) of goats

**goat-skin** /'gəʊt.skɪn/ *n* [C; U] (leather made from) the skin of a goat

**gob<sup>1</sup>** /gɒb||gɑ:b/ *n* *BrE sl, impolite* the mouth: *Shut your gob!*

**gob<sup>2</sup> n** [(of)] *sl* 1 a mass of something wet and sticky: *gobs of spit* 2 also *gobs AmE infml* a large amount of: *gobs of money* | *He gave me a whole gob of extra work to do just as he was leaving.*

**gob-bet** /'gɒbɪt||'gɑ:z/ *n* [(of)] *infml* a lump or piece of something, esp. food

**gob-ble<sup>1</sup>** /'gɒbəl||'gɑ:z/ *v* [I; T (UP)] *infml* to eat very quickly, and sometimes noisily: *Don't gobble your breakfast.* | (fig.) *Inflation soon gobbled up our pay increase.*

**gobble<sup>2</sup> v** [I] to make the sound a **TURKEY** makes —**gobble n**

**gob-ble-dy-gook**, **-degook** /'gɒbəldɪgʊ:k||'gɑ:bəldɪgʊk, -gʊ:k/ *n* [U] *infml derog* meaningless but important-sounding official language; often very difficult to understand: *bureaucratic gobbledygook*

**go-be-tween** /'gəʊ.bi/ *n* a person who takes messages from one person or side to another, because the two sides cannot meet or do not wish to meet: *She acted as a go-between in the delicate negotiations.*

**Go-bi** /'gəʊ.bi/ also **Gobi Des-ert** /,gəʊ. 'bi:/ — [the] one of the



world's largest deserts, covering half a million square miles, in central Asia

**gob·let** /'gɒblɪt/ 'gɑ:b-/ *n* esp. old use a container for drinking, usu. of glass or metal, with a base and stem but no handles, and used esp. for wine



goblin

**gob·lin** /'gɒblɪn/ 'gɑ:b-/ *n* a small, often ugly, FAIRY that is usu. unkind or evil and plays tricks on people —see also HOBGOBLIN

**gob·smacked** /'gɒbsmækt/ 'gɑ:b-/ also **gob·struck** /'gɒbstrʌk/ 'gɑ:b-/ *adj* BrE *infml* suffering from great surprise, disappointment, pleasure, or other strong emotion; flabbergasted (FLABBERGAST)

**gob·stop·per** /'gɒbstɒpə/ 'gɑ:bstɑ:-/ BrE *||* jawbreaker AmE— *n* a large, round, hard sweet

**god** /gɒd/ 'gɑ:d/ *n* a being who is worshipped, esp. for having made or for ruling over the world or a part of the world: *They made a sacrifice to the god of rain.* | *The ancient Greeks had many gods.* | (fig.) *He makes a god of his work* (=gives too much importance to it), and forgets his family. —see also GODS, TIN GOD, in the lap of the gods (LAP<sup>1</sup>)

**God** 1 the being who in the Christian, Jewish, and Muslim religions is worshipped as maker and ruler of the world: *to pray to God* | *a mosque built to the glory of God* —see also ACT OF GOD, GOD'S GIFT

► **CULTURAL NOTE** British and American people often imagine God as a very old man with a white beard. ◀

2 **God (alone) knows** *infml* it's impossible to say: *God knows where he went!* | *It'll cost God knows how much.*

3 **God forbid (that)** I very much hope it will not happen (that): *God forbid that I should ever have to work with him again.*

4 **God moves in mysterious ways** *quote* a phrase from a religious song, often used humorously when saying that an unexpected event may bring advantages

5 **God's in his heaven, all's right with the world** *quote* a phrase from a poem by Robert Browning

6 **God willing** if all goes well

7 **Man proposes, God disposes** an old saying, meaning that people can make plans, but whether or not they are successful depends on the will of God

8 **My God, My God, why hast thou forsaken me?** *quote from the Bible* the phrase used in the Bible by Christ just before he died on the cross

9 **Nearer my God to Thee** the title of a religious song, believed to have been sung by the people on the ship "Titanic" as it sank

10 **Oh God/My God/Good God!** (strong expressions of surprise, fear, annoyance, etc.)

11 **thank God** (an expression of happiness that trouble has passed): *Thank God you're safe!* —see also ACT OF GOD

12 **you cannot serve both God and Mammon** *quote from the Bible* you cannot serve two gods, i.e. spend all your time trying to get rich and be a Christian

► **USAGE** 1 **God grant (that)** is usually used in a religious way. **God forbid (that)** is often used in a non-religious way to express strong dislike of a possibility: *"I expect Smithson will be the next Prime Minister."* *"Smithson? God forbid!"* Oh **God/My God/Good God/For God's sake** are used in a non-religious way, though some people may find them offensive. —see also JESUS (USAGE), SAKE (USAGE) 2 **God** is written with a capital letter. The pronouns which refer to **God** are **He, Him, and His**, and they too are written with a capital letter: *We prayed to God, and He answered our prayers.* ◀

**God·ard** /'gɒdɑ:/ 'gɑ:dɑ:rd/, **Jean-Luc** /ʒɒn lu:k/ ʒain-/ (1930– ) a French film DIRECTOR remembered esp. for the film *Breathless*

**god·awful** /'gɒdɔ:/ 'gɑ:dɔ:/ *adj* *sl* very bad or unpleasant

**god·child** /'gɒdtʃaɪld/ 'gɑ:dʃaɪld/ *n* -children /tʃɪldrən/ (in the

Christian religion) the child (**godson** or **goddaughter**) for whom a GODPARENT takes responsibility by making promises at a ceremony (BAPTISM) e.g. to look after them if anything happens to their parents and to bring them up in the Christian faith

**god·damn**, **goddam** /'gɒdæm/ 'gɑ:d-/ also **god·damned** /-dæmd/ *adj, adv, interj* [A] DAMN<sup>1</sup>, <sup>2</sup>

**god·dess** /'gɒdɪs/ 'gɑ:d-/ *n* a female being who is worshipped, esp. for having made or for ruling over the world or part of the world: *the goddess of the moon*

**god·father** /'gɒd,fɑ:ðə/ 'gɑ:d-/ *n* 1 a male GODPARENT 2 *sl* (often *cap.*) the head of a criminal organization or Mafia family

**Godfather, The** a film based the actor Marlon Brando as **The Godfather**

on a book by Mario Puzo about an Italian godfather (2) who was a powerful member of the Mafia, and arranged crime using his family and friends. The Godfather was played by the actor Marlon Brando. Later two more films were made as part of the same story.

**god·fear·ing** /'gɒd,fɛərɪŋ/ *adj* *old-fash* morally good and closely following the rules of the Christian religion; GODLY

**god·for·sak·en** /'gɒdfəseɪkən/ 'gɑ:dfər-/ *adj* *derog* (of a place) far from cities and towns and containing nothing useful, interesting, attractive, or cheerful, and often in very bad condition, in very wild country, etc.: *He was sent to work in some godforsaken remote village.*

**god·head** /'gɒdhed/ 'gɑ:d-/ *n* [the] *fml* God



Lady Godiva



**Go·di·va** /gə'daɪvə/, **Lady** an 11th-century British woman of high rank who is believed to have ridden a horse through Coventry with no clothes on as a PROTEST, to persuade her husband to lower the local taxes

**god·less** /'gɒdləs/ 'gɑ:d-/ *adj* *fml* wicked; not showing respect for God or belief in God — *~ly adv* — *~ness n* [U]

**god·like** /'gɒdlaɪk/ 'gɑ:d-/ *adj* like or suitable to God or a god: *godlike beauty/calm*

**god·ly** /'gɒdli/ 'gɑ:dli/ *adj* *fml* showing obedience to God by leading a good life — *~liness n* [U]

**god·moth·er** /'gɒd,mʌðə/ 'gɑ:d-/ *n* a female godparent — see also FAIRY GODMOTHER

**god·pa·rent** /'gɒd,pɛərənt/ 'gɑ:d-/ *n* the person (godfather or godmother) who makes promises to help a Christian newly received into the church at a special ceremony (BAPTISM) —see also GODCHILD

**God Rest You Mer·ry Gen·tle·men** /'gɒd,rest ju: mɛrɪ dʒen·tl̩ mɛn/ a religious song (CAROL) sung at Christmas

**gods** /gɒdz/ 'gɑ:dz/ *n* [the+P] *infml* the seats high up at the back of a theatre

**God Save the Queen** /'gɒd,səv ðə ki:ŋ/ the name of the British NATIONAL ANTHEM. "Queen" changes to "King" when a king rules.

**god·send** /'gɒdsend/ 'gɑ:d-/ *n* *infml* an unexpected lucky chance or event, often badly needed: *That legacy from my*



*uncle's will was a godsend, because I was very short of money.*

**God's gift** /ˌɡɒd ˈɡɪft/ *infml* God's gift to men/women/mankind *often derog* a man or woman who thinks that he/she is perfect, esp. by being very attractive: *He seems to think he's God's gift to women!*

**God Slot** /ˌɡɒd ˈslɒt/ *n BrE infml* a regular religious broadcast on radio or television

**god-speed** /ˌɡɒd ˈspiːd/ || ˈɡɑːdspiːd, ˈɡɑːd ˈspiːd/ *n* [U] *old use* good luck, esp. in a journey or activity: *We wished/bade him godspeed as he set off on his quest.*

**God squad** /ˌɡɒd ˈskwɒd/ [*the*] *infml derog* a word used to describe Christians who go about trying to persuade people to join their religion

**Godt-haab** /ˈɡɒdhaːb/ || ˈɡɑːd-/ a former name for NUUK

**God-win-Aus-ten** /ˌɡɒdwin ˈɒstɪn/ || ˈɡɑːdwin ˈɔːs-/ **Mount** see K2

**Goeb-bels** /ˈɡɔːbəlz/, **Paul Joseph** (1897–1945) a German Nazi politician who controlled German PROPAGANDA during the Second World War

**go-er** /ˈɡəʊər/ *n infml, esp. BrE* 1 a person or thing that moves or does things fast: *My new car's a real goer.* 2 a person who is always ready for new activity, esp. sexual activity: *She's a bit of a goer.* —see also **-goer** (GO<sup>1</sup> (3))

**Goe-ring** /ˈɡɔːrɪŋ/, **Her-mann Wil-helm** /ˈhɜːmən ˈwɪlhɛlm/ || ˈhɜːr-/ (1893–1946) a German Nazi military commander who was head of the German airforce in the Second World War

**Goe-the** /ˈɡɔːtə/, **Jo-hann Wolf-gang von** /ˈjəʊhæn ˈwʊlfɡæŋ vɒn/ || -hɑːn-, -vɑːn/ (1749–1832) a German poet and scientist, and one of the best known writers of plays and books of all time, known esp. for his play *Faust*

**go-fer** /ˈɡəʊfər/ *n esp. AmE* a person whose job is to get or take things for other people —compare **GOPHER**

**Gog and Ma-gog** /ˌɡɒɡ ənd ˈmeɪɡɒɡ/ || ˌɡɑːɡ ənd ˈmeɪɡɑːɡ/ in old stories, the last two of a race of GIANTS living in Britain in Roman times. In the Apocalypse in the Bible they represent the future enemies of the kingdom of God.

**go-get-ter** /ˌɡəʊtər/ || ˌɡəʊtər/ *n* someone who is forceful and determined and likely to succeed in getting what they want. This kind of person is usu. admired: *She's a real go-getter.*

**gog-gle** /ˈɡɒɡəl/ || ˈɡɑː-/ *v* [I (at)] to look hard with the eyes wide open or moving around, usu. in great surprise: *The children goggled in amazement at the peculiar old man.* —compare **GAWP**

**goggle box** /ˈɡɒɡəl bɒks/ || **boob tube** *AmE n* [*the*+S] *humor, esp. BrE* television

**goggle-eyed** /ˈɡɒɡəl aɪd/ || ˈɡɑː-/ *adj infml* with the eyes standing out as if surprised

goggles



goggles



goggles/a face mask



a face mask

**gog-gles** /ˈɡɒɡəlz/ || ˈɡɑː-/ *n* [P] (a pair of) large round pieces of glass or plastic with an edge which fits against the skin so that dust and wind or water cannot get near the eyes: *motorcycle goggles* | *ski goggles* —see **PAIR** (USAGE)

**go-go** /ˌɡəʊ-/ *adj* [A] 1 of or being a form of fast dancing with sexy movements, usu. performed by one or more girls in a nightclub, bar, etc.: *go-go dancing* 2 *infml* up-to-date and eager: *a go-go style of management*

**go-ing** /ˈɡəʊɪŋ/ *n* [U] 1 the act of someone's leaving: *Her going will be a great loss to the company.* 2 the rate of travel or advance towards an aim: *We climbed the mountain in three hours, which was very good going.* | *The going was slow on the project because of a shortage of skilled workers.* 3 the condition or possibility of movement or travel: *The mud made it rough/hard going for the car.* | *Let's leave while the going's good.* (=while we can) | (fig.) *I found the book very heavy going.* (=dull and

difficult to read) —see also **comings and goings** (COMING<sup>1</sup>)

**going**<sup>2</sup> *adj* 1 [F] able to be obtained: *Are there any jobs going in your factory?* 2 [A] as charged at present: *The going rate for the job is £6 an hour.* 3 [after superlative *adj* + *n*] in existence: *He's the biggest fool going.* | *That's the best car going.* 4 **have a lot/plenty/nothing going for one** *infml* to have many/no advantages or good qualities: *I think this new system has a lot going for it.*

**going con-cern** /ˌɡəʊɪŋ ˈkɒnsər/ || ˌɡɑː-/ *n* a business which is operating in the usual way, making a profit, and expected to continue to do so

**going-o-ver** /ˌɡəʊɪŋ ˈoʊvər/ || ˌɡɑː-/ *n goings-over infml* 1 a (thorough) examination and/or treatment: *The car needs a proper going-over before we use it again.* —see also **GO OVER** (1) 2 *BrE* a severe beating or an angry complaint: *If he refuses to pay, I'll get the boys to give him a going-over.* | *She got a real going-over (from her parents) for coming home late.*

**goings-on** /ˌɡəʊɪŋz ˈɒn/ || ˌɡɑː-/ *n* [P] *infml* activities or events, usu. of an undesirable kind: *Stories of scandalous goings-on at the palace began to leak out to the papers.* —see also **GO ON** (1)

**goi-tre** *BrE* || -ter *AmE* /ˈɡɔɪtər/ || ˈɡɑːtər/ *n* [U] a medical condition in which an organ (the THYROID) in the front of the neck gets larger, sometimes because the body lacks certain chemical substances

**go-kart** || also **go-cart** *AmE* /ˈɡəʊ kɑːt/ || -kɑːrt/ *n* a small racing vehicle made of an open frame on four wheels, with an engine

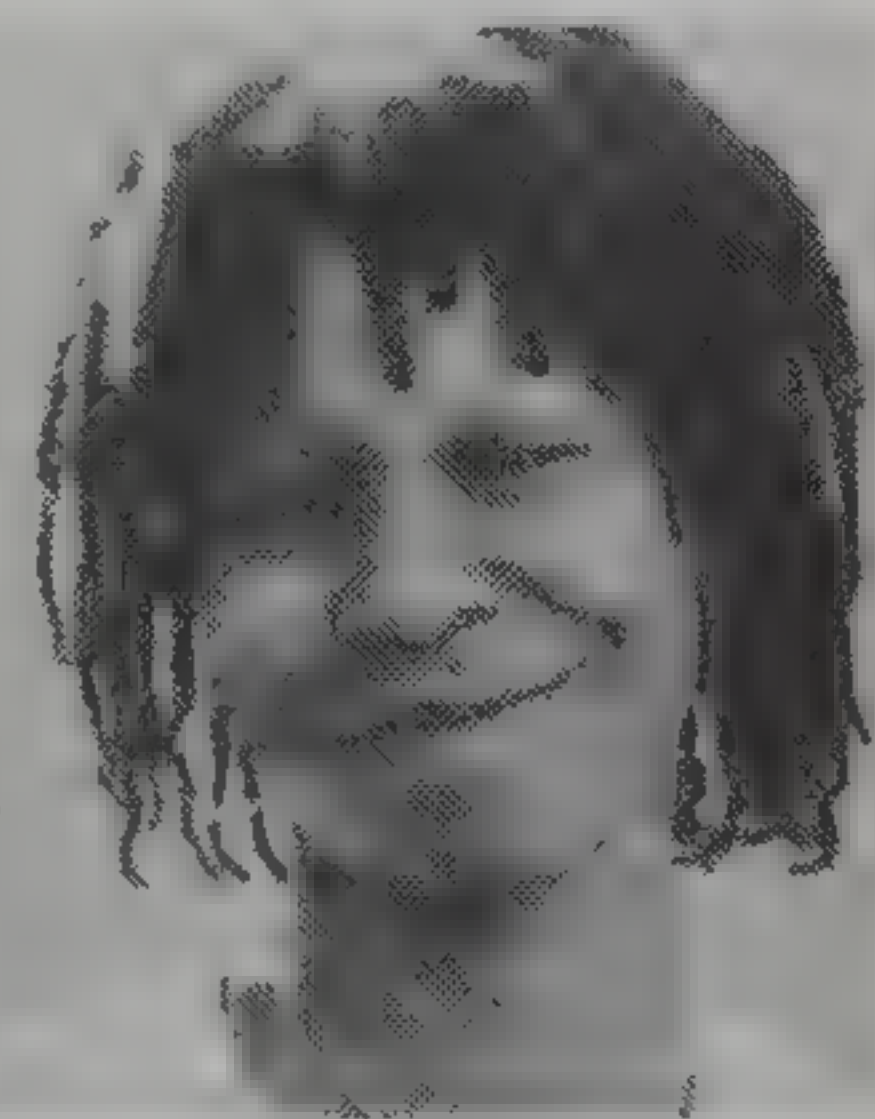
**Go-lan Heights** /ˌɡəʊlən ˈhaɪts/ || -laːn-/ [*the*+P] a range of hills and mountains E of the Jordan River, occupied by Israel since 1967.

**gold**<sup>1</sup> /ɡəʊld/ *n* 1 [U] a valuable soft yellow metal that is a substance (ELEMENT) and is used for making coins, jewellery, etc.: *a rich vein of gold in the rock* | *The men were panning for gold in the river.* *One of them suddenly struck gold.* (=found gold) | *a gold mine* 2 [U] coins, jewellery, or other objects made of this metal: *People used to pay in gold.* | *She wore so much jewellery that she seemed to be covered in gold.* 3 [U] the colour of this metal: *the gold of her hair* 4 [C] a GOLD MEDAL —see also **as good as gold** (GOOD<sup>1</sup>) 5 **gold, frankincense, and myrrh** (in the Bible) the gifts brought by the Three Wise Men to the baby Jesus 6 **there's gold in them thar hills** *humor* (a phrase used to suggest that something is likely to be profitable. The phrase is supposed to represent the speech of an old American gold-miner.

**gold**<sup>2</sup> *adj* 1 made of gold: *a gold bar/jingot* | *a gold watch* 2 of the colour of gold: *a gold car* | *gold paint* —compare **GOLDEN**

**Gold-berg** /ˈɡəʊldbɜːg/ || -bɜːrg/, **Whoop-i** /ˈwʊpi/ (1949– ) an American film actress who appeared in *The Color Purple* and *Ghost*

Whoopi Goldberg



**Gold Blend** /ˌɡəʊld ˈblend/ || ˌɡɑː-/ *n tdmk* a type of INSTANT coffee made by Nescafé

**gold-brick**<sup>1</sup> /ˈɡəʊldbɪk/ *n AmE infml derog* a worthless thing that appears to be valuable: *This new all-in-one personal organizer is a gold-brick if I ever saw one.*

**goldbrick**<sup>2</sup> *v* [I] *AmE infml* to stay away from one's work or responsibilities, esp. with the false excuse that one is ill: *George called in sick but I think he's goldbricking; he's got tickets for the baseball game.*

**gold card** /ˌɡəʊld ˈkɑːd/ || ˌɡɑː-/ *n tdmk* a CREDIT CARD available to people with a lot of money or property

**Gold Coast** /ˌɡəʊld ˈkɒst/ || ˌɡɑː-/ 1 the former name of Ghana before 1957 2 [C] *AmE* an expensive area of nice homes, esp. one near water: *Chicago's Gold Coast along Lake Shore Drive*

**Gold Cup** /ˌɡəʊld ˈkʌp/ || [*the*] a horse race held every March in Cheltenham, England

**gold dig-ger** /ˌɡəʊld ˈdɪɡər/ || ˌɡɑː-/ *n* 1 *old-fash derog sl* a woman who tries to attract rich men so that she can get money and



presents **2** a person who tries to find gold by digging in the earth

**gold dust** /'gəʊld/ *n* [U] gold in the form of a fine powder: (fig.) *Good computer personnel are like gold dust.* (=very valuable and hard to find)

**gold-en** /'gəʊldən/ *adj* **1** *esp. lit* made of gold: *a golden crown* **2** *esp. lit* of the colour of gold: *golden hair* **3** [A] very favourable or advantageous: *I missed a golden chance/opportunity to make a lot of money.* **4** [A] very successful or having qualities that promise future success: *He's one of the company's golden boys; sales have doubled since he took over as marketing director.* | *the golden girl of US tennis* —compare GOLD<sup>2</sup>

**golden age** /'gəʊldən/ *n* [(of)] a period of time, either real or imaginary, when everyone was happy, the best work was done, etc.: *The 17th century was the golden age of Dutch painting.* | *People are always harking back to an imaginary golden age.*

**golden an-ni-ver-sa-ry** /'gəʊldən/ *n* AmE for GOLDEN WEDDING

**golden calf** /'gəʊldən/ *n* a CALF (=young cow) made from gold which, in a Bible story, was worshipped by the Jews. It is now used to represent the false worship of material things, rather than God.

**golden ea-gle** /'gəʊldən/ *n* a large golden-brown meat-eating bird that lives in northern parts of the world

**golden egg** /'gəʊldən/ *n* an egg made of gold laid by the GOLDEN GOOSE

**golden fleece** /'gəʊldən/ *n* [the] in CLASSICAL MYTHOLOGY, the gold FLEECE of a magical flying RAM which Jason and the Argonauts obtained after many adventures

**Golden Gate** /'gəʊldən/ *n* [the] the stretch of water, crossed by the **Golden Gate Bridge**, which joins San Francisco Bay in California, US, to the Pacific Ocean —see colour map on pages 1374–5

**Golden Globe A-ward** /'gəʊldən/ *n* a prize given by a group of newspaper writers for excellent work in films or television. Many of the people, films, or television programmes that win these prizes go on to win an Academy Award or an Emmy Award.

the Golden Gate Bridge



**Golden Gloves** /'gəʊldən/ *n* [the] an American competition for AMATEUR (=unpaid) BOXERS

**golden goose** /'gəʊldən/ *n* a magical GOOSE in an old story, which laid one golden egg each day. The owners of the goose tried to open the goose up, to get out all the eggs that were inside, but in doing so they killed the goose. —see also GOOSE (3)

**golden hand-cuffs** /'gəʊldən/ *n* [P] a large amount of money given to someone by their employer to persuade them to stay in their present job and not leave for another job

**golden hand-shake** /'gəʊldən/ *n* BrE a large amount of money given to someone when they leave a job, esp. when the company has asked them to leave

**golden hel-lo** /'gəʊldən/ *n* a payment offered to someone to persuade them to join a company

**golden ju-bi-lee** /'gəʊldən/ *n* the date that is exactly 50 years after the date of some important personal event, esp. of becoming a king or queen —compare DIAMOND JUBILEE, SILVER JUBILEE

**golden mean** /'gəʊldən/ *n* [(the) S] a balance between two extreme positions, ideas, etc.

**golden old-ie**, **golden oldy** /'gəʊldən/ *n* a popular song that may be many years old, but that people still enjoy listening to: *This radio station only plays golden oldies.*

**golden par-a-chute** /'gəʊldən/ *n* infml part of an EXECUTIVE's contract according to which she/he will be paid a large sum of money when the contract ends, even if she/he did not work well

**golden rule** /'gəʊldən/ *n* [S] a very important fact, principle, way of behaving, etc. that must be remembered

**Golden Rule**, **The** an idea from the Bible that people should treat others in the way that they want to be treated themselves: *I've always tried to live by the Golden Rule.*

**golden syr-up** /'gəʊldən/ *n* [U] BrE a sweet thick liquid made from sugar, that is spread on bread and used in cooking

**Golden Tem-ple** /'gəʊldən/ *n* [the] the centre of the Sikh religion in Amritsar, India, a temple which stands in the middle of a holy lake and contains the holy book of the Sikhs. In 1984 a group of Sikhs took over the temple and there was a battle between the Sikhs and Indian soldiers. Many people were killed.

**Golden Tri-angle** /'gəʊldən/ *n* [the] part of SE Asia where OPIUM poppies (POPPY) are grown. Most of the world's raw opium comes from this area.

**golden wed-ding** /'gəʊldən/ *n* also **golden wedding an-ni-ver-sa-ry** /'gəʊldən/ *n* also **golden anniversary** AmE— the date that is exactly 50 years after the date of a wedding —compare DIAMOND WEDDING, SILVER WEDDING

**Golden Won-der** /'gəʊldən/ *n* tdmk a type of potato CRISP (1); there are many different FLAVOURS of Golden Wonder crisps. Golden Wonder is a division of Dalgety Spillers Foods Limited

**gold-field** /'gəʊldfi:ld/ also **goldfields** *pl.*— *n* an area of land where gold can be found

**gold-finch** /'gəʊldfɪntʃ/ *n* a small singing bird with some yellow feathers

**gold-fish** /'gəʊldfɪʃ/ *n* **goldfish** a small shiny esp. orange fish which is kept as a pet in glass bowls in houses, and in ORNAMENTAL pools in gardens

**goldfish bowl** /'gəʊldfɪʃ/ also **fishbowl** AmE— *n* **1** a glass bowl, usu. very rounded in shape, in which fish are kept as pets **2** in a **goldfish bowl** open to public view: *Film-stars live in a goldfish bowl.*

**Gold-i-locks** /'gəʊldɪləks/ *n* **1** a children's story (full title, *Goldilocks and the Three Bears*) in which a little girl with golden-coloured hair (Goldilocks) visits the Three Bears' house while they are out. She tries their chairs, their PORRIDGE, and their beds, until she finds what she wants and falls asleep. The Bears return and know that someone has been there, saying "Who's been sitting on my chair?" etc. until they find her in bed and she runs away. **2** a name sometimes used in a joking way for a little girl with golden hair (from *Goldilocks and the Three Bears*)

**Gol-ding** /'gəʊldɪŋ/, **William** (1911–93) an English writer who was given the 1983 Nobel Prize for literature and is famous esp. for his NOVEL *Lord of the Flies*

**gold leaf** /'gəʊld/ *n* [U] gold which has been beaten into extremely thin sheets for use in picture frames, decorative writing, etc.

**gold med-al** /'gəʊld/ also **gold**— *n* a usu. round flat piece of gold given to the winner of a race or competition, or by a society, etc. as a sign of special achievement —see also BRONZE MEDAL, SILVER MEDAL

**gold-mine** /'gəʊldmaɪn/ *n* **1** a place where gold is mined (MINE<sup>4</sup>) from the rock **2** infml a successful business or activity which makes large profits: *That little restaurant is a real goldmine.* | *He doesn't realize it, but with that new invention he's sitting on a goldmine.* (=he possesses something very valuable)

**gold plate** /'gəʊld/ *n* [U] **1** old use articles, such as dishes, made of gold **2** a covering of gold on top of another metal —**plated** /'gəʊld/ *adj*: *Is it solid gold or gold-plated?*

**gold rush** /'gəʊld/ *n* **1** a rush to a place where gold has just been discovered, by people hoping to collect large amounts of it easily **2** (with caps.) the famous gold rush in California in 1849

**gold-smith** /'gəʊldsmɪθ/ *n* a person who makes things out of gold

**Goldsmith, Ol-i-ver** /'ɒlɪvə/ (1728–74) an Irish poet and writer of books and plays. His works include the book *The Vicar of Wakefield* and the play *She Stoops to Conquer*.

**gold stan-dard** /'gəʊld/ *n* [the] the practice of using the value of gold as a fixed standard on which to base the value of money, usu. with the purpose of preventing the value of the money from changing

**gold star** /'gəʊld/ *n* a small piece of gold paper shaped like



## a golf course



a star given to young school children as a reward for good behaviour or good work

**gold watch** /ˌˈgɒld wɒtʃ/ *n* a watch made of gold, or coloured like gold, often given as a mark of respect to people who have worked for a company for a long time and have come to the end of their working life

**Goldwyn** /ˈgəʊldwɪn/, **Sam-u-el** /ˈsæmjʊəl/ (1882–1974) American film producer, head of one of the companies which later became MGM. Goldwyn is famous for saying odd things like “Include me out!”

**go-lem** /ˈgəʊlem/ *n* (in old Jewish stories) an artificial person made by magic; now often used to mean a stupid person, or a person easily controlled

**golf** /gɒlf/ *n* [U] a game in which people hit small hard white balls into holes in the ground with a set of special sticks (GOLF CLUBS), trying to do so with as few strokes as possible: *They played a round of golf.*

**golf ball** /ˈˌgɒl bɔːl/ *n* 1 a small hard white ball used in the game of golf 2 (an electric TYPEWRITER that has) a small ball on which the letters of the alphabet are raised, which moves to press them onto the paper —compare DAISY WHEEL PRINTER

**golf club** /ˈˌgɒl klʌb/ *n* 1 a club for golfers, with the land and buildings it uses 2 a long-handled wooden or metal stick used for hitting the ball in golf —see also IRON<sup>1</sup> (3), WOOD (3)

**golf course** /ˈˌgɒl kɔːrs/ *n* an area of land with small hills, ditches, etc., across which the ball must be hit from hole to hole in golf —see picture at GOLF

**gol-fer** /ˈgɒlfə/ *n* a person who plays GOLF

**golf-ing** /ˈgɒlfɪŋ/ *n* [U] playing golf: *He goes golfing on Sundays. | a golfing holiday*

**golf links** /ˈˌgɒl lɪŋks/ *n* golf links a golf course, esp. by the sea

**Gol-goth-a** /ˈgɒlgəθə/ *n* according to the Bible, the place where Jesus was crucified (CRUCIFY)

**Go-li-ath** /gəˈlaɪəθ/ a very strong GIANT killed by the boy David in the Bible: (fig.) *How can a small computer company compete with the goliaths of the industry?* —see also DAVID; and see colour picture on page 424

**gol-li-wog, golly-** /ˈgɒliwɒg/ *n* (in Britain) an old-fashioned child's toy (DOLL) made of soft material, dressed like a little man, and with a black face with big white eyes and black hair standing out round its head. Many people who are against RACISM find golliwogs offensive because they show an old-fashioned STEREOTYPE of black people, but many other people think that golliwogs are just toys and that their appearance is not important.

**gol-ly** /ˈgɒli/ *interj* old-fash *infml* (an expression of surprise)

**Go-mor-rah** /gəˈmɒrə/ *n* —see SODOM AND GOMORRAH

**go-nad** /ˈgəʊnəd/ *n tech* a male or female organ in which the cells from which young may be formed are produced

**gon-do-la** /ˈgɒndələ/ *n* 1 a long narrow flat-bottomed boat with high points at each end, used only on the waterways (CANALS) in Venice in Italy 2 a vehicle or arrangement of seats that hangs down underneath an AIRSHIP or large BALLOON 3 the enclosed part of a CABLE CAR (1) which carries the passengers

**gon-do-lier** /ˈgɒndəˈliə/ *n* a man who guides and drives a GONDOLA (1)

**Gon-dwa-na-land** /gɒnˈdwaːnələnd/ *n* the large mass of land that existed before it broke up to form Antarctica, Australia, Africa, South America, and India —see also LAURASIA, PANGAEA

**gone**<sup>1</sup> /gɒn/ *past participle* of GO —see GO (USAGE)

**gone**<sup>2</sup> *adj infml* 1 [F] suffering from illness, the effects of alcohol or drugs, etc.: *We tried to make him understand, but he was too far gone to take in what we were saying.* 2 BrE [after *n*] having been PREGNANT (=with an unborn child growing inside one) for the stated period of time: *She's six months gone.* 3 [F(on)] having a very great liking or fondness (for): *She's really gone on that boy next door.*

**gone**<sup>3</sup> *prep* BrE later or older than; past: *We didn't get home until gone midnight. | Considering that she's gone eighty she's very vigorous.*

**gon-er** /ˈgɒnə/ *n infml* someone or something that will soon die or be in a hopeless position: *When she catches him, he's a goner!*

**Gone With The Wind** /ˌgɒn wɪð ðə ˈwɪnd/ *n* a NOVEL by Margaret Mitchell, set in Georgia, US, during the American Civil War. The novel and the film of it (1939) are extremely popular. *Gone With The Wind* has many associations: the HEROINE, Scarlett O'Hara, is a beautiful woman with wild, strong feelings; the HERO, Rhett Butler, is attractive but dangerous; and the book and esp. the film have many very sad moments, such as when Scarlett's house is burnt down because of the war. —see colour picture on page 685

**gong** /gɒŋ/ *n* 1 a round piece of metal hanging in a frame, which when hit with a stick gives a deep ringing sound 2 BrE *sl* for MEDAL

**Gong Show** /ˈˌgɒŋ ʃəʊ/, *The* a former American television programme, in which non-professional and often very bad performers would sing, dance, tell jokes, etc. until someone struck a gong to show that they had seen enough

**gon-na** /ˈgɒnə, ɡənə/ *going to*: *I'm gonna get you for that!*

▷ **USAGE** **Gonna** is used to suggest an American English or nonstandard British English pronunciation of



going to. It is pronounced and written like this only when it comes before a verb to show the future: "I'm gonna find her," he said. **Gonna** would not be written or said in this sentence: "I'm going to Canada", he said. <

**gon-or-rhe-a**, -rheoa /ˌɡɒnəˈriːə||ˌɡɑː-/ *n* [U] a disease of the sex organs, passed on during sexual activity and causing a burning feeling when urinating (URINATE) — compare SYPHILIS

**gon-zo jour-nal-is-m** /ˌɡɒnzəʊ ˌdʒɜːnəl-ɪzəm||ˈɡɑːnzəʊ ˌdʒɜːr-/ *n* [U] *AmE infml* reporting, esp. in newspapers, which is considered unprofessional because it is untrue, too emotional, or too sensational — **ist** *n*

**goo** /guː/ *n* [U] *infml* 1 unpleasantly sticky material: "What's all that goo at the bottom of this bag?" "The chocolate must have melted." 2 *derog* (words which seem to express) unnaturally sweet feelings; SENTIMENTALISM — see also GOOEY 3 **goo-goo ga-ga** *AmE* (used to describe or copy the sounds a baby makes when learning to talk)

**Gooch** /ɡuːtʃ/, **Gra-ham** /ˈɡreɪəm/ (1953– ) an English cricket player who was made captain of the England team in 1990, and made a SCORE of 333 in one INNINGS against India. Gooch began to play cricket for England in 1975, but was not allowed to play for three years after he went to South Africa with a cricket team in 1982.

**good**<sup>1</sup> /ɡʊd/ *adj* **better** /ˈbetəː/, **best** /best/ 1 having qualities that are very satisfactory, favourable, or worthy of praise; of the right or desirable kind: "Hamlet" is a very good play. | He is a good husband/a good father/a good person to work for. | Her exam results were very good. | She put forward quite a good case for appointing him. | She received the best medical treatment. | The weather remains good. | This watch keeps good (=correct) time. | good news | a school with a good reputation | Come on, give them a few hours of your time — it's all in a good cause! (=for a good purpose) | It's good that we didn't go to the park because it's started to rain. 2 useful or suitable (for a particular purpose): It's a good day for a trip to the beach. | a good knife for cutting vegetables | good advice | Just because his wife doesn't like cooking, he thinks she's good for nothing. (=completely useless) — see also GOOD-FOR-NOTHING 3 enjoyable; pleasant: Did you have a good time at the party? | Oh no! It's raining: I knew this weather was too good to last! | It's good to see you again. 4 [(for)] in a satisfactory condition; not broken, damaged, decayed, or ineffective: You need good shoes for walking on the hills. | To test eggs, put them in a bowl of water: if they float they're bad, if they sink they're good. | They've fixed the car and it's as good as new. (=in perfect condition) | This ticket is good (=can be used) for one month. 5 of pleasing appearance; attractive: She was jealous of her sister's good looks. | You're looking very good — living in the country must suit you. 6 [(for)] useful to the health or character; BENEFICIAL: The water isn't good; we have to boil it before we drink it. | Milk is good for you. | It isn't good for children to give them everything they want. — see also GOOD<sup>2</sup> (1) 7 [(at)] clever or skilful; having the ability to do something: She's a good skier. | He's good at languages/good with his hands. | a good liar 8 morally right; in accordance with religious standards: People who do good deeds and lead a good life will go to heaven. — see also GOOD<sup>2</sup> (2,3) 9 [(to, about)] (of a person) kind; helpful: She's always been very good to me. | I had some time off work when my mother was ill, but the boss was very good about it. | It's good of you to help. | (in formal requests) Would you be good enough to close the door? 10 (esp. of a child) well-behaved: Be good when we visit your aunt. | a prize for good conduct 11 [A] complete; thorough: Take a good look at it. | Their team gave us a good beating. | She had a good cry. 12 safe from loss of money: a good risk | a good debt 13 [A] (used with a): a large or fairly large in quantity, size, or degree: I waited a good while. (=quite a long time) | We travelled a good distance. | I've had a good deal of (=a lot of) trouble with it. | She feels a good deal (=much) better today. | I've been there a good few/a good many (=quite a large number of) times. | There's a good chance he'll be at the meeting. (=it is quite likely) b at least or more than: It's a good mile away. | We wasted a good three hours. 14 (in greetings): Good morning/afternoon/evening. 15 all in good time (it will happen) at a suitable later time; be patient 16 as good as almost (the same thing as): He as good as refused. | We're as good as ruined. | She's as

good as dead. | (BrE) He really shouts at her, but she gives as good as she gets! (=she shouts back at him) 17 as good as gold *infml* (esp. of a child) very well-behaved 18 be as good as one's word to keep one's promise 19 Good! I'm pleased, satisfied, etc.: "I'll be back tomorrow." "Good!" 20 good and ... *infml* very or completely: Don't rush me; I'll do it when I'm good and ready. 21 good for likely to produce (an effect or money): It's not a good film, but it's good for a laugh. | He'll be good for (=will be willing to lend) a few dollars. 22 good God/gracious/grief/heavens/Lord! (used as an expression of surprise or other strong feeling) 23 Good show BrE old-fash *infml* I am glad 24 in good time early (enough): We must make sure we get to the station in good time, because we've still got to buy our tickets. 25 in one's own good time *infml* when one is ready, and not before 26 it's a good thing/job it is fortunate: It's a good thing you didn't tell me that bad news last night, because I would have been too worried to sleep. | (BrE) He's gone, and a good job, too. (=I am glad) 27 make (it) good to become successful, and esp. wealthy: a boy from a small town who made good in New York 28 make good (something): a to pay for (something lost or missing): The loss to the company was made good by contributions from its subsidiaries. b to put (something) into effect: The prisoners slipped over the wall and made good their escape. (=succeeded in escaping) | He made good his promise and returned the money. c esp. BrE to repair (something that one has damaged): The builders agreed to make good the whole area under the windows. 29 no good/not much good/not any good useless or bad: It's no good talking to him, because he never listens. | A car's not much good to me; I can't drive. | The film wasn't any good. | Is your new doctor any good? 30 too much of a good thing something which is usually pleasant but has become unpleasant because it has gone on too long or become too big 31 very good BrE old-fash polite of course; certainly: "Please tell the cook to come up." "Very good, sir." — see also BEST, BETTER, so far so good (FAR<sup>1</sup>), hold good (HOLD<sup>1</sup> (19)), for good measure (MEASURE<sup>1</sup>), well and good (WELL<sup>1</sup>)

**good**<sup>2</sup> *n* 1 [U] something that brings gain, advantage, or improvement: I go swimming for the good of my health. (=not for fun) | You should drink the medicine, not because I want you to, but for your own good. | It'll do you good to have a holiday. | His ex-wife's presence at the wedding will do more harm than good. | A long holiday would do him a power of good/the world of good. (=a great deal of good) 2 [U] action or behaviour that is morally right, worthy of praise, or in accordance with religious beliefs and principles: By behaving well you can be an influence for good. | The company claims it has done a lot of good for the town by providing employment. | There's good in her, in spite of her bad behaviour. — see also DO-GOODER 3 [the+P] good people generally; those who do what is right: Christians believe the good go to heaven when they die. 4 for good (and all) for ever: We thought she'd come for a visit, but it seems she's staying for good. 5 good for you || also good on you *AustrE & dial BrE* — (used to express approval and pleasure at someone's success, good luck, etc.) 6 to the good with a profit of (an amount): I sold it for more than I paid for it, so I'm £5 to the good. 7 up to no good doing or intending to do something wrong or bad: When I saw him climbing through the window behind the shop I knew he was up to no good. 8 What's the good of ... ? also What good is ... ? — What is the use or purpose of (something or doing something)?: What's the good of buying a boat when you don't have enough spare time to use it? | What good is money when you haven't any friends? — see also GOODS 9 the good, the bad, and the ugly humor (a phrase used to mean "all sorts of people or things", originally the title of a film)

**good af-ter-noon** /ˌ ɹ ˌ ˌ ˌ / *interj, n* (an expression used when meeting, or being met by, someone in the afternoon)

**good book** / ɹ ˌ ˌ / [the] old-fash, sometimes humor the Bible

**good-bye** /ɡʊdˈbaɪ/ also *bye infml* — *interj, n* (an expression used when leaving, or being left by, someone): We said our goodbyes and left. | "I'm off now. Bye!" "Good-bye, John. See you tomorrow."

**good day** / ɹ ˌ ˌ / *interj, n* 1 esp. *AustrE & AmE* (an expression used when meeting, or being met by, someone, esp. in the morning or afternoon) 2 old-fash, esp. BrE HELLO or goodbye

**good deed** / ɹ ˌ ˌ / *n* an action which helps others, esp. done



by Scouts and Guides, who were supposed to do a good deed every day: *Have you done your good deed for the day?*

**good eve-ning** /, - ' - / *interj*, *n* (an expression used when meeting, or being met by, someone in the evening) — compare GOOD NIGHT

**good faith** /, - ' - / *n* in **good faith** (of a deal, etc.) made with honesty and no intention to deceive: *The contract was drawn up in good faith.*

**good-for-noth-ing** /, - ' - / *n* a person who is worthless, useless, etc.: *Get out of bed, you lazy good-for-nothing!* — **good-for-nothing** /, - ' - / *adj* [A]

**Good Fri-day** /, - ' - / *n* [C;U] (in the Christian religion) the Friday before EASTER

**Good House-keep-ing** /, - ' - / a British monthly magazine read esp. by women who are interested in decorating their homes. It has articles about food and fashions and pictures of the insides of people's houses. There is also an American magazine with the same name.

**Good Hu-mor** /, - ' - / *tdmk* a kind of ICE CREAM sold in the US, esp. in summer by a person (**Good Humor Man**) who drives around in a TRUCK that plays music (**Good Humor Truck**)

**good-hu-moured** /, - ' - / *adj* having or showing a cheerful friendly state of mind: *a good-humoured smile* | *He was very good-humoured about the mess my children made of his kitchen.* — see also HUMOUR<sup>1</sup> (3) — *~ly adv*

**good-le**, **goody** /'gudi/ *n* someone who is good or an opponent of bad people, esp. in books, films, etc.

**good-ish** /'gudiʃ/ *adj* [A] *BrE* 1 quite good (but not very good) in quality 2 [A] (with *a*) rather; to quite a high degree: *You can walk from here to the park but it's a good-ish distance.* (=quite a long way)

**good life** /, - ' - / *[the]* a simple way of living in which people are close to nature, e.g. by growing their own food: *Many people have moved to remote parts of Britain in search of the good life.*

**good look-er** /, - ' - / *n infml* an unusually good-looking person, esp. a woman

**good-look-ing** /, - ' - / *adj* better-looking, best-looking (esp. of a person) having an attractive appearance — see BEAUTIFUL (USAGE)

**good looks** /, - ' - / *n* [P] a person's attractive appearance: *She's kept her good looks in old age.*

**good-ly** /'gudli/ *adj* [A] *old use or pomp* 1 large (in amount): *There were a goodly number of people present.* 2 pleasant or satisfying in appearance: *The table spread with food made a goodly sight.*

**Good-man** /'gudmən/, **Benny** (1909–86) an American JAZZ musician and bandleader who played the CLARINET and helped make big band jazz popular in the 1930s. He was known as the “King of Swing”.

**good mor-ning** /, - ' - / *interj*, *n* (an expression used when meeting, or being met by, someone in the morning)

**good-na-tured** /, - ' - / *adj* naturally kind; ready to help, to forgive, not to be angry, etc. — *~ly adv* — *~ness n*

**good-ness** /'gudnɪs/ *n* [U] 1 the quality of being good 2 the best part, esp. the part of food which is good for the health: *If you boil the vegetables too long they'll lose all their goodness.* 3 (used in expressions of surprise and annoyance): *My goodness! | Goodness (gracious) me! | For goodness' sake, stop talking! | I wish to goodness he'd be quiet.* — see SAKE (USAGE)

**Good News Bi-ble** /, - ' - /, **The** a modern translation of the Bible which first came out in 1976 and is written in simple English

**good night** /, - ' - / *interj*, *n* (an expression used when leaving, or being left by, someone at night, esp. before going to bed or to sleep): *Good night, sleep tight.* — compare GOOD EVENING

**good of-fic-es** /, - ' - / *n* [P] *fml* services provided, esp. by someone in a position of power or influence, that help someone out of a difficulty: *Through the good offices of the ambassador we were able to get special permission to travel.*

**goods** /gudz/ *n* 1 [P] articles for sale: *There's a large variety of consumer goods in the shops.* | *frozen goods* 2 [P] *BrE* || *freight esp. AmE* — heavy articles which can be carried by road, train, etc.: *a goods train/waggon* 3 [P] possessions which can be moved, as opposed to houses,

land, etc.; personal property: *He bequeathed her all his worldly goods.* 4 *[the+P] BrE infml* a desirable thing or person: *She thinks he's the goods.* | *He's full of promises but in fact he rarely comes up with/delivers the goods.* (=produces what is needed or expected) — see also DRY GOODS, GOODS AND CHATTELS

**good Sa-mar-i-tan** /, - ' - / *n* someone who gives help to people in trouble or need, without thinking of themselves (from the Bible story of the **Good Samaritan**, who made a special effort to help someone who other people had taken no notice of)

**goods and chat-tels** /, - ' - / *n* [P] *law* personal possessions

**Good Shep-herd** /, - ' - / *[the]* a name used in the Bible for Jesus

**good-will** /, gud'wil/ *n* [U] 1 kind feelings towards or between people and/or willingness to take action that will bring advantage to the others: *Given sufficient goodwill on both sides, there's no reason why this dispute shouldn't be resolved.* 2 the value of the popularity, the regular customers, etc., of a business calculated as part of its worth when being sold: *We paid £30,000 for the shop, plus £5000 for the goodwill.*

**Good-win Sands** /, gudwin 'sændz/ *[the+P]* a dangerous area of sand just under the sea off the S coast of England, near Dover, where many ships have been wrecked

**Good-wood** /'gudwud/ (the race held on) a horse-racing course near Chichester, S England. Races are held at Goodwood every year in July and August: *the Goodwood winner* (=the horse that wins the races held there)

**good word** /, - ' - / *n* 1 [S] a favourable statement: *They hadn't a good word (to say) for her.* (=everything they said about her was unfavourable) | *When you're talking to the director, put in a good word for me.* (=mention me favourably) 2 *[the] AmE* good news: *What's the good word?*

**good-y** /'gudi/ *n* [*usu. pl.*] *infml* 1 a pleasant thing to eat: *She had got us all sorts of delicious goodies for tea.* 2 something particularly attractive, pleasant, or desirable: *They had all the goodies — new cars, a big house, holidays abroad — that a higher income brings.* 3 a GOODIE

**goody**<sup>2</sup> *interj* (an expression of pleasure, used esp. by children)

**Good-year** /'gudjiə, -jɜ:ɪ || -jiər/ a company known around the world for its tyres and other rubber products

**goody-good-y** /, - ' - / || also **goody-two-shoes** *AmE* — *n* **goody-goodies** *infml derog* (used esp. by children about other children) a person who likes to appear faultless in behaviour so as to please others, not because he or she is really good: *Who's a little goody-goody then, helping the teacher?*

**goody-two-shoes** /, - ' - / *n* **goody-two-shoes** *AmE* for goody-goody

**goo-ey** /'gu:ɪ/ *adj infml* 1 sticky and *usu.* sweet: *gooey cakes* 2 *derog* over-sweet; *SENTIMENTAL*: *She gets very gooey about babies and young animals.* — see also GOO

**goof** /gu:f/ *n infml* 1 a foolish person: *The poor goof still hasn't twigged* (=realized) *that they're pulling his leg* (=that they are joking). 2 *esp. AmE* a silly mistake

**goof**<sup>2</sup> *v* [I] *infml, esp. AmE* to make a silly mistake  
**goof off** *phr v* [I] *AmE infml* to waste time or avoid work

**goof-y** /'gu:fi/ *adj infml* appearing stupid or silly — *-iness n* [U]

**goo-gly** /'gu:gli/ *n* (in cricket) a ball bowled (BOWL<sup>2</sup> (1)) as if to go in one direction after bouncing (BOUNCE) which in fact goes in the other direction

**goo-goo eyes** /, - ' - / *n* [P] *AmE infml humor* a look at another person that suggests love or sexual desire: *Don't look at me with your goo-goo eyes!* | *I think that man in the suit is making goo-goo eyes at you.*

**goo-ly**, **goolie** /'gu:li/ *n BrE, sl, not polite* a TESTICLE

**goon** /gu:n/ *n infml* 1 a silly or stupid person 2 *esp. AmE* a violent criminal hired to frighten or attack people

**Goon Show** /, - ' - / *[the]* a British radio COMEDY show of the 1950s, whose four performers (Spike Milligan, Peter Sellers, Michael Bentine, and Sir Harry Secombe) called themselves **the Goons**. It was different from anything



which had gone before and influenced a lot of later British humour.

**goose** /gʊz/ *n* **geese** /giːz/ **1** **gander** *masc.* — a bird that is similar to a duck but larger and makes a hissing (HISS) or honking (HONK) noise **2** (*pl. geese*) *old-fash infml* a silly person **3** (*kill*) the goose that lays/laid the golden egg(s) (to spoil or destroy) the thing that is or will be the main cause of one's profit or success (from the story of the GOLDEN GOOSE) —see also HONK<sup>1</sup>, MOTHER GOOSE, WILD-GOOSE CHASE, *can't/couldn't say boo to a goose* (BOO<sup>1</sup>), *cook someone's goose* (COOK<sup>1</sup>)



The Goons

**goose-ber-ry** /'gʊzbəri, 'gʊz-, 'gʊz-||'gʊzberi/ *n* **1** a small round green sharp-tasting fruit that grows on a bush — see picture at BERRY **2** *infml, esp. BrE* a third person who stays in the company of two lovers although they want to be alone: *When her boyfriend came over I went out because I didn't want to play gooseberry.*

**gooseberry bush** /'... ɪ/ *n* the small bush on which gooseberries grow. In the past British children were sometimes told that new babies are found under gooseberry bushes. —see picture at BERRY

**goose-flesh** /'gʊzflɛʃ/ *BrE*, also **goose pim-ples** /'... ɪ/ || *usu. goose-bumps* /'gʊzsbʌmps/ *AmE* — *n* [U] a condition in which the skin is raised up in small points because a person is cold or frightened

**Goose Green** /ɪ. ɪ/ a settlement in the Falkland Islands where British soldiers fought with Argentinians in May 1982. Many people were killed.

**goose-step** /'gʊz-step/ *n* [(the) S] a way of marching, used by soldiers in some countries, in which each step is taken without bending the knee. This word is connected by many people with the marching style of the German soldiers in the Second World War. —**goosestep** *v* -**pp** -[I]

**GOP** /,dʒiː əʊ 'piː/ [(the) *esp. AmE* Grand Old Party; the Republican Party in US politics

**go-pher** /'gəʊfə/ *n* a ratlike animal of North and Central America which makes and lives in holes in the ground —compare GOFER

**Gor-ba-chev** /'gɔːbətʃɛv||'gɔːr-bətʃɔːf/, **Mi-khail** /mɪ'kaɪl, -'xɑɪl/ also **Gor-by** /'gɔːbi||'gɔːr-/ *infml* — (1931– ) a political leader of the USSR who started the processes of economic and political change (PERESTROIKA) and freedom of expression (GLASNOST) which greatly improved relations with the West (1985–92)

Gorbachev



**Gor-bals** /'gɔːbɔːlz||'gɔːr-/ [(the) *n* an area of the city of Glasgow. For many years this area was one of Britain's worst SLUMS, and its name still makes people think of low quality houses, people with no jobs or low wages, crime, and violence.

**Gor-di-an knot** /,gɔːdiən 'nɒt||,gɔːrdiən 'nɒt/ *n* cut the Gordian knot to settle a difficulty or remove a problem by direct action, without thinking too much of the results (from the ancient story which said that whoever undid the complicated knot used by King Gordius would rule all Asia. Alexander the Great is supposed to have cut through it with his sword.)

**Gor-di-mer** /'gɔːdɪmə/||'gɔːr-/ *n*, **Na-dine** /nə'diːn/ (1923– ) a South African novelist who won the Nobel Prize for literature in 1992

**Gordon** /'gɔːdn||'gɔːr-/ *n*, **Charles** (1833–85) a British GENERAL who fought in the Crimean War and then in China. He was killed at Khartoum, when British soldiers were trapped there.

**Gordon** /'gɔːdn||'gɔːr-/ *n*, **No-ele** /'nəʊəl/ (1923–85) an English actress and singer best remembered for playing the

character Meg Richardson in the old television programme *Crossroads*

**Gordon High-land-ers** /ɪ. ɪ-.../ *n* [(the)+P] a Scottish REGIMENT (=large division of men) in the British army

**Gordon's** /'gɔːdnz || 'gɔːr-/ *n* *tdmk* a company which makes different types of GIN; it is best known for its London Special Dry Gin

**Gordon-stoun** /'gɔːdnstən||'gɔːr-/ a well-known PUBLIC SCHOOL in the north of Scotland, where some members of the royal family were educated

**gore**<sup>1</sup> /gɔː/ *v* [T] (of an animal) to wound with the horns or TUSKS: *The bullfighter was badly gored.*

**gore**<sup>2</sup> *n* [U] *lit* blood, esp. blood that has flowed from a wound and thickened. This word is often used when speaking of films which show a lot of people being killed, etc.: *too much blood and gore* —see also GORY

**gore**<sup>3</sup> *n* a piece of material which widens towards the bottom and is used in making a garment, usu. a skirt — **gored** *adj*: *a gored skirt*

**Gore, Albert** (1948– ) a senator from Tennessee who became Vice President of the US in 1993. His wife's name is **Tipper** (1948– )

**gorge**<sup>1</sup> /gɔːdʒ||gɔːrdʒ/ *n* **1** a deep narrow valley with steep sides usu. made by a stream which runs or has run through it —see VALLEY (USAGE) **2** *make someone's 'gorge rise* to make someone feel sickened or feel strong dislike: *When I saw the torturers and their victims it made my gorge rise.*

**gorge**<sup>2</sup> *v* *gorge oneself on/with* *usu. derog* to fill oneself completely with (food); eat in a GREEDY way: *He gorged himself on cream cakes.*

**gor-geous** /'gɔːdʒəs||'gɔːr-/ *adj infml* **1** wonderful; delightful: *What a gorgeous day!* (=warm and sunny) | *This cake is gorgeous.* **2** very beautiful: *Our show features fifty gorgeous dancing girls.* — *~ly* *adv* — *~ness* *n* [U]

**gor-gon** /'gɔːgən||'gɔːr-/ *n* **1** *infml* an ugly angry-looking woman whose appearance causes fear **2** (*usu. cap.*) any of three imaginary sisters in ancient Greek stories who had snakes on their heads instead of hair, and turned anyone who looked at them to stone

**Gor-gon-zo-la** /,gɔːgən'zəʊlə||,gɔːr-/ *n* [U] an Italian cheese which is white with blue marks and has a strong taste

**go-ril-la** /gə'rɪlə/ *n* **1** a very large African monkey that is the largest of the manlike monkeys (APES) —see picture at APE **2** *sl* an ugly or rough man: *The gang boss had brought his gorillas in case there was any trouble.*

**Gor-ky** /'gɔːki || 'gɔːr-/ *n*, **Maxim** (1868–1936) a Russian writer of NOVELS remembered esp. for his book about his own life

**gor-mand-ize** also **-ise** *BrE* /'gɔːmændaɪz||'gɔːr-/ *v* [I] *fml* to eat a lot for pleasure rather than from hunger —see also GOURMAND

**gorm-less** /'gɔːmləs||'gɔːrm-/ *adj BrE infml* stupid and thoughtless; slow in understanding: *a gormless-looking young man* — *~ly* *adv*

**gorse** /gɔːs||gɔːrs/ also **furze** — *n* [U] a prickly bush with bright yellow flowers, which grows wild in country areas

**gor-y** /'gɔːri/ *adj* **1** *infml* full of extreme violence and unpleasantness: *a gory film* | *The newspaper account of the accident gave all the gory details.* **2** *lit* covered in blood —see also GORE<sup>2</sup>

**gosh** /gɒʃ||gɔːʃ/ *interj infml* (an expression of surprise)

**gos-ling** /'gɒzlɪŋ||'gɔːz-, 'gɔːz-/ *n* a young GOOSE

**go-slow** /ɪ. ɪ-.../ *n* *BrE* || **slowdown** *AmE* — a period of working as slowly and with as little effort as possible, as a form of STRIKE<sup>2</sup> (1) —compare WORK-TO-RULE; see also **go slow** (GO<sup>1</sup>)

**gos-pel** /'gɒspəl||'gɔːs-/ *n* [U] **1** also **gospel truth** /ɪ. ɪ-.../ — something that is completely true: *What I'm telling you is gospel/the gospel truth.* **2** also **gospel mu-sic** /'... ɪ-.../ — a style of popular music usu. performed by black American singers in which religious songs are sung strongly and loudly: *a gospel singer* —see also HOT-GOSPELLER

**Gospel** *n* any of the four accounts of Christ's life in the Bible: *the Gospel according to St Matthew/St Mark/St Luke/St John*

**gos-sa-mer** /'gɒsəmə/||'gɔːz-/ *n* [U] **1** light silky thread



which SPIDERS leave on grass and bushes and between trees 2 a very light thin material

**gos-sip** <sup>1</sup> /'gɒsɪp/ <sup>1</sup> *[C;U]* (a) conversation or report about the details of other people's behaviour and private lives, often including information that is not actually true: *All this talk about his love affairs is just idle gossip.* | *I haven't had a good gossip since you left.* | *Many newspapers have a gossip column, where the private lives of famous people are reported.* —compare RUMOUR 2 *[C]* a person who likes talking about other people's private lives

**gossip** <sup>2</sup> *v* *[I]* to spend time in gossip: *She was gossiping with her friend about the boss's love life.*

**gos-sip-y** /'gɒsɪpi/ <sup>1</sup> *[C;U]* *adj* *infml* full of gossip or liking gossip: *I got a long gossiping letter from my sister.* | *a gossiping person*

**got** /gɒt/ *past tense & participle of GET* —see GOTTEN (USAGE), HAVE<sup>2</sup> (USAGE)

**got-cha!** /'gɒtʃə/ <sup>1</sup> *[C;U]* *interj* I've got you! (said to surprise or frighten someone, or to show that one has gained a sudden advantage). During the Falklands War, the Sun newspaper used **Gotcha!** in its HEADLINE when the British sank an Argentine ship. Many people found this insensitive and offensive.

**Goth** /gɒθ/ <sup>1</sup> *[C;U]* a member of a group of people (the **Goths**) from the area of Germany who invaded (INVADE) the Roman Empire several times between the 3rd and 5th centuries AD

**Goth-am** /'gɒθəm/ <sup>1</sup> *[C;U]* *AmE infml* the name for New York City used in the Batman stories

**Goth-ic** /'gɒθɪk/ <sup>1</sup> *[C;U]* *adj* 1 of or in a style of building common in Western Europe between the 12th and 16th centuries, with pointed arches, tall PILLARS, and tall thin pointed windows often with coloured glass in them: *Notre Dame in Paris is a Gothic cathedral.* 2 of or like a style of writing popular in the late 18th century which produced stories set in lonely frightening places: *Gothic novels* | *Gothic horror films, with ruined castles, haunted graveyards, and eerie noises* 3 being a type of printing with thick pointed letters

**got-ta** /'gɒtə/ <sup>1</sup> *[C;U]* *nonstandard* 1 have/has got to 2 have/has a

▷ USAGE have got to and have got a are often pronounced like this in ordinary speech, but **gotta** is used in writing only to suggest a very informal or non-standard pronunciation: *I gotta go.* (=I must go) | *Gotta match?* (=Have you got a match?) <

**got-ten** /'gɒtn/ <sup>1</sup> *[C;U]* *AmE past participle of GET* —see also ILL-GOTTEN

▷ USAGE In American English **gotten** is more common than **got** as the past participle of **get**, except where it means a "possess", compare: *I've got a new car* (=I possess one) and *I've gotten a new car* (=I've bought one) or b "must", compare: *I've got to go* (=I must go) and *I've gotten to go* (=I've succeeded in going). <

**got-tle o'geer** /'gɒtl ə 'ɡiə/ <sup>1</sup> *[C;U]* *interj infml humor* (a phrase used by someone pretending to be a bad VENTRILOQUIST who is actually trying to say "bottle of beer")

**gou-ache** /gu'ɑːʃ, gwaːʃ/ <sup>1</sup> *[C;U]* (a picture produced by) a method of painting using colours that are mixed with water and thickened with a sort of GUM<sup>2</sup> (1)

**Gou-da** /'ɡaʊdə, 'ɡuːdə/ <sup>1</sup> *[C;U]* a flat Dutch cheese which is yellowish in colour and not very strong in taste

**gouge** <sup>1</sup> /ɡaʊdʒ/ <sup>1</sup> *[C;U]* a tool for cutting out hollow areas in wood

**gouge** <sup>2</sup> *v* *[C;U]* *phr* to press or dig out with force: *They tortured him and then gouged his eyes out.*

**gou-lash** /'ɡuːlæʃ/ <sup>1</sup> *[C;U]* a dish originally from Hungary consisting of meat cooked in liquid with PAPRIKA, a hot-tasting pepper

**Gould** /ɡuːld/, **Glenn** (1932–82) a Canadian piano player remembered esp. for his excellent recordings of the music of J.S. Bach

**gourd** /ɡuəd/ <sup>1</sup> *[C;U]* a round fruit which has a hard outer shell and cannot usually be eaten 2 the shell

of this fruit that can be used for drinking from or keeping things in

**gour-mand** /'ɡuəmənd/ <sup>1</sup> *[C;U]* a person who is too interested in eating and drinking —see also GORMANDIZE

**gour-met** <sup>1</sup> /'ɡuəmeɪ/ <sup>1</sup> *[C;U]* a person who knows a lot about food and drink and is good at choosing combinations of dishes, good wines, etc.

**gourmet** <sup>2</sup> *adj* (of food) suitable for a gourmet, of excellent quality: *This restaurant serves gourmet French dishes.*

**gout** /ɡaʊt/ <sup>1</sup> *[C;U]* a disease which makes esp. the toes, fingers, and knees swell and give pain. In the past, gout was often thought to be caused by drinking too much of certain kinds of alcohol, e.g. PORT<sup>3</sup>. — ~y *adj*: *an irritable old lord with a gouty leg*

**gov-ern** /'ɡʌvən/ <sup>1</sup> *[I;T]* to control and direct the affairs of (a country, city, etc. and its people), using political power: *The country was governed by a small élite of military officers.* | *In Britain the Queen is the formal head of state, but it is the prime minister and cabinet who govern.* 2 *[T]* to control, fix, or guide; DETERMINE: *The price of coffee is governed by the quantity that has been produced.* | *a change in the rules governing the use of seat belts* 3 *[T]* (in grammar) (of a word) to cause another word to be in (the stated form): *In German, prepositions usually govern the accusative or dative cases.*

**gov-ern-ess** /'ɡʌvənɪs/ <sup>1</sup> *[C;U]* (esp. in former times) a female teacher who lives with a rich family and educates their children at home

**gov-ern-ing** /'ɡʌvənɪŋ/ <sup>1</sup> *[C;U]* *adj* [A] having the power of ruling or controlling: *The governing party doesn't want an election yet.* | *The university's governing body* (=the group of people in control) *has decided to expand the Computer Centre.*

**gov-ern-ment** /'ɡʌvəmənt, 'ɡʌvənmənt/ <sup>1</sup> *[C+sing./pl. v]* (often *cap.*) the group of people who govern (esp. a nation or state): *The Government is/are planning new tax increases.* | *the Swiss government* | *changes in education policy under the last Labour government* (=during the period of their rule) | *a military/civilian government* 2 *[U]* the form or method of governing: *a return to democratic government* | *She is in charge of a government department.* 3 *[U]* the act or process of governing; rule: *the art of government* | *Government has been entrusted to the elected politicians.* —see also CENTRAL GOVERNMENT, LOCAL GOVERNMENT, NATIONAL GOVERNMENT and see extra information on page 565 — ~al /'ɡʌvən'mentl/ *adj*

**government bond** /'ɡʌvən'ment bɒnd/ <sup>1</sup> *[C;U]* a SECURITY (5) produced by a government on which the holder receives a fixed rate of interest until the repayment date

**government health warn-ing** /'ɡʌvən'ment helθ wɜːnɪŋ/ <sup>1</sup> *[C;U]* a notice that, by law, must be put on certain products to warn people that they are considered harmful: *All cigarette packets now carry a government health warning.*

**government stock** /'ɡʌvən'ment stɒk/ <sup>1</sup> *[C;U]* savings BONDS<sup>1</sup> (3) or other forms of GILT-EDGED SECURITY

**gov-er-nor** /'ɡʌvənə/ <sup>1</sup> *[C;U]* a person who controls any of certain types of organization or place. The office of governor is the highest in American state government: *After the mass riot the prison governor resigned.* | *He was elected governor of the state of California.* | *British colonies were ruled by governors.* —see also extra information on page 565 2 a member of a group or committee that broadly directs or controls a school, hospital, or similar organization: *The head teacher is appointed by the school governors.* | *She was invited to join the board of governors of the opera house.* 3 a part of a machine that controls how the machine works, esp. by limiting it in some way 4 esp. *BrE* GUVNOR —see also GUBERNATORIAL — ~ship *n* *[U]*

**governor-gen-er-al** /'ɡʌvənə'reɪl/ <sup>1</sup> *[C;U]* *n* governors-general or governor-generals (*usu. cap.*) a person who represents the King or Queen of Britain in other Commonwealth countries which are not REPUBLICS: *the Governor-General of Australia*

**Governor of the Bank of En-gland** /'ɡʌvənə'reɪl/ <sup>1</sup> *[C;U]* the head of the Bank of England, one of the most important people in the City of London

## Gothic Lettering





## Government in Britain

### National government

The centre of government in Britain is PARLIAMENT, which makes all the important laws for the country about crimes and punishment, taxation, etc. Parliament is made up of the House of Commons, the House of Lords, and the monarch. The HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT are in Westminster in London and sometimes "Westminster" itself is used to mean Parliament.

The HOUSE OF COMMONS (or the COMMONS) is the lower but more powerful of the two Houses. It has 650 elected members, called MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT or MPs, each representing people in a particular area or CONSTITUENCY. The HOUSE OF LORDS (or the Lords) is the higher but less powerful of the two Houses. It has over 1,000 members, none of whom is elected. These members include: people who have titles like Lord or Viscount which have been passed down to them on the death of their father (**hereditary peers**); people who are given titles as a reward for their long service in public life, but whose children do not INHERIT their title (**life peers**); and some important leaders of the Church of England (ARCHBISHOPS and BISHOPS).

The government brings **BILLS** (=suggested laws) to the House of Commons, which are discussed by MPs. The bills then go to the House of Lords to be discussed. The House of Lords can suggest changes to a bill, but does not have the power to REJECT it (=refuse permission for it to be passed). When bills come back to the Commons, MPs vote on them and if they are passed they are signed by the monarch and become **Acts of Parliament**.

At present England, Scotland, Wales, and N Ireland are all governed by Parliament in Westminster. In N Ireland the political parties are different but their MPs still go to the House of Commons. In Scotland there is a lot of discussion about whether Scotland should have some separate or partly separate form of government. The same is true in Wales.

### Local government

Local government in Britain, also known as COUNCILS, can make small laws (BYLAWS) which only apply in their area, but these are usually about small, local matters. For instance, they may be about fines that will be made to people who park in certain streets.

Councils are paid for by local taxes and also by an amount of money given to them each year by the national government. Their main job is the organizing and providing of local services, e.g. hospitals, schools, libraries, public transport, street-cleaning, etc. They are also responsible for setting the amount of local tax that people must pay and for collecting this tax.

Local councils are elected by people within each town, city, or country area. The people who are elected, known as COUNCILLORS, usually represent one of the national political parties, but are often elected because of their policies on local issues rather than the national policies of their party.

## Government in the US

All levels of government in the US (FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL) are elected by the people of the country.

### Federal government

The Constitution of the US specifically limits the power of the federal (=national) government mainly to defence, foreign affairs, printing money, controlling trade and relations between the states, and protecting human rights. The federal government is made up of the CONGRESS, the PRESIDENT, and the SUPREME COURT.

### Congress

Congress, the central law-making body in the US, is made up of the House of Representatives and the Senate. The HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES is the lower but more important of the two houses of Congress. It has 435 members, called REPRESENTATIVES or CONGRESSMEN/CONGRESSWOMEN elected by their state. The number of Representatives for each state depends on the size of the population of the state, with each state having at least one Representative. The SENATE is the higher but less powerful of the two houses of Congress. It has 100 members, called SENATORS, elected by their state. Each state has two Senators.

Congress decides whether a **BILL** (=suggested law) becomes law. If the Senate and the House of Representatives both agree to a bill, the President is asked to agree. The President can veto (=say no to) the bill, but Congress can still make it a law if 2/3 of the members of each house agree to it.

### State government

State government has the greatest influence in people's daily lives. Each state has its own written CONSTITUTION (=set of fixed laws), and among the states there are sometimes great differences in law on matters such as property, crime, health, and education. The highest elected official of each state is the GOVERNOR. Each state also has one or two elected law-making bodies (state LEGISLATURE) whose members represent the various parts of the state.

### Local government

Local government concerns laws made at the town, city or COUNTY level. These laws are usually limited to a small area and concern such things as traffic, where and when alcoholic drinks can be sold, or keeping animals. The highest elected official of a town or city is usually the MAYOR; a small law-making body is usually called the town or city COUNCIL.

Every law at every level of government must be in agreement with the United States constitution. Any citizen who thinks he or she has not been given their rights under the law may argue their case through all the courts up to the Supreme Court (the final COURT OF APPEAL in the US) if necessary, and any law which is found not in agreement with the constitution (unconstitutional) cannot be kept in force. —see also pages 412 and 949



**Gow-er** /'gauəʔ/, **David** (1957– ) an English cricket player who was captain of the England cricket team in 1984–85, and again for a short time in 1989

**gown** /gaʊn/ *n* 1 a woman's dress, esp. a long one worn on formal occasions: *She wore a blue silk evening gown.* 2 a long loose usu. black outer garment worn for special ceremonies by judges, teachers, lawyers, and members of universities 3 (often in comb.) a long loose garment worn for some special purpose: *The gown a surgeon wears during an operation is usually green.* —see also DRESSING GOWN

**Go-ya** /'gɔɪə/, **Fran-cis-co de** /fræn'sɪskəʊ də/ (1746–1828) a Spanish artist, considered to be the greatest of his time, many of whose works are paintings of people, esp. the royal families of Spain

**GP** /,dʒɪˈpiː/ also **general practitioner** *fml*, esp. *BrE*—*n* a doctor who is trained in general medicine and whose work (**general practice** /,dʒɪˈpræktɪs/ '••• '••/) is to treat people in a certain local area: *My GP sent me to a specialist.* —see also extra information on page 825

**GPA** /,dʒɪˈpiː/ GRADE POINT AVERAGE

**GPO** /,dʒɪˈpiː/ *abbrev. for:* 1 *BrE* *tdmk* General Post Office; the former name of the organization that controls the mail in Britain (now the Post Office) 2 *AmE* Government Printing Office, a government department which prints and gives away or sells US government documents —compare HMSO

**grab** /græb/ *v* -bb- [T] 1 to take hold of (a person or thing) with a sudden rough movement, esp. for a bad or selfish purpose: *He grabbed the money and ran off.* | *They grabbed her by the arm and forced her into their car.* | (fig.) *Don't miss this chance to travel — grab it before the boss changes her mind.* 2 *infml* to get quickly and perhaps unfairly: *She grabbed the seat near the fire before I could.* | *I missed breakfast but I managed to grab a sandwich on the way here.* 3 *infml* to have an effect on; find favour with: *How does the idea of a holiday in Spain grab you?* (=Would you like one?)

**grab at** sthg./sbdy. *phr v* [T] to make a sudden attempt to grab: *She grabbed at the fish, but the cat was too fast for her.*

**grab** *n* 1 a sudden attempt to take hold of something: *The thief made a grab at my bag but I pushed him away.* 2 **up for grabs** *infml* ready for anyone to take or win: *They've decided to change their advertising company, so there's a big contract up for grabs.*

**grab bag** /'græb bæg/ *n* *AmE* for LUCKY DIP (1)

**grace** /greɪs/ *n* 1 [U] a fine and attractive quality in movement or form, esp. when this seems effortless and natural: *She danced with marvellous natural grace.* 2 [S; U] willingness to behave in a fair and honourable way: *She had the grace to admit that I was right.* | *He agreed to the proposed changes with (a) good/bad grace.* (=willingly/unwillingly) 3 [U] a delay allowed as a favour, usu. for the stated period: *I'll give you a week's grace, but if the work is not finished then, I'll write to my lawyers.* 4 [U] a prayer before or after meals, giving thanks to God: *Who'll say grace today?* 5 [U] the favour or MERCY (of God): *By the grace of God the ship came safely home through the storm.* 6 [U] (in the Christian religion) the state of the soul when freed from evil: *to die in a state of grace* 7 **fall from grace**: a to fall/a fall from a position of favour b to fall/a fall back into bad old ways of behaving 8 **in someone's good graces** in someone's favour —see also GRACES, SAVING GRACE 9 **there but for the grace of God go** 'I (a phrase used when you see someone else in a difficult or unfortunate situation, and feel lucky that you are not in that situation)

**grace** *v* [T] *fml* or *humor* 1 [(with, by) *usu. pass.*] to give honour or favour to: *We're flattered that you were able to grace us with/by your presence.* (=said formally to an important guest, or humorously to someone arriving late) 2 to decorate or make beautiful; **ADORN**: *The photo of him meeting the Queen graces his mantelpiece.*

**Grace** *n* (used as a title for addressing or speaking of a DUKE, DUCHESS, or ARCHBISHOP): *Good morning, Your Grace.* | *Their Graces the Duke and Duchess of Bedford.*

**Grace, Princess** see Grace KELLY

**Grace, W G** (1848–1915) an English cricketer, generally thought of as the best ever. He was a very large man with a long, thick beard.

**grace-ful** /'greɪsfəl/ *adj* 1 attractively and usu. effortlessly fine and smooth; full of grace: *a graceful dancer* | *her graceful movements* 2 showing a willingness to behave fairly and honourably: *a graceful apology* —see GRACIOUS (USAGE) —~ly *adv* —~ness *n* [U]

**Grace-land** /'greɪslənd/ the former home of singer Elvis Presley in Memphis, Tennessee, now a tourist attraction

**grace-less** /'greɪsləs/ *adj* 1 awkward in movement or form 2 lacking in good manners —~ly *adv* —~ness *n* [U]

**Graces** /'greɪsɪz/, **The also The Three Graces** Greek and Roman goddesses of grace and beauty who often appear in art

**gracious** /'greɪʃəs/ *adj* 1 polite, kind, and pleasant, esp. in a generous way: *Busy as she was, she was gracious enough to show us round her home.* 2 [A] having those qualities which are made possible by wealth, such as comfort, beauty, and freedom from hard work: *All this gracious living isn't for me; I prefer the simple life.* 3 [A] *fml* (used in speaking of a royal person): *Her Gracious Majesty Queen Elizabeth* 4 (of God) forgiving; MERCIFUL 5 **Gracious!** also **Good gracious!** — *rather old-fash* (used to show surprise) —~ly *adv* —~ness *n* [U]

▷ **USAGE** Compare **gracious** and **graceful**. **Graceful** means attractive or pleasant and is used especially to describe bodily movements or form: *a graceful dancer* | *a deer running gracefully through the forest.* **Graceful** can also be used of people's manners, especially when they are saying they are sorry for something, or accepting defeat: *He admitted gracefully that he was wrong.* | *The losing candidate accepted the result of the election gracefully.* **Gracious** is usually used of people's manners and suggests an important person being polite to someone less important: *The Queen thanked them graciously.* ◀

**grad** /græd/ *n* *infml* a GRADUATE<sup>1,2</sup>: *a reunion of old grads*

**gra-da-tion** /grə'deɪʃən/ *n* [(in, of)] *fml* a stage in a set of changes or degrees of development: *There are many gradations in/of colour between light blue and dark blue.* —compare GRADUATION

**grade** /greɪd/ *n* 1 a particular level of rank or quality: *He's not in the first grade as a musician.* | *low-grade apples* | *weapons-grade plutonium* (=of a quality suitable for using in weapons) | *This grade of wool can be sold at a lower price.* 2 (in the American school system) a particular year of a school course: *She's in the second/eighth grade.* | *He had a fifth-grade education.* (=left school after completing the fifth grade) —compare FORM<sup>1</sup> (8)

► **CULTURAL NOTE** There are twelve years of education in the US, and these are called "first grade", "second grade", etc., up to "twelfth grade". The last four grades are spent in HIGH SCHOOL. Most Americans go to college or university after the twelfth grade. **First graders** are usu. six years old; **twelfth graders** are usu. seventeen years old. ◀

3 *esp. AmE* a mark for the standard of a piece of schoolwork or of the schoolwork for all or part of the year: *She got good grades last semester.* 4 *esp. AmE* a degree of slope, esp. in a road or railway 5 **make the grade** to succeed; reach the necessary standard: *I don't think she'll make the grade as a fashion model.*

**grade** *v* [T] to separate into levels of rank or quality: *These potatoes have been graded according to size and quality.* —**gradable** *adj*: "Rich" is a gradable adjective but "nuclear" is not.

**grade cross-ing** /'grædkrosɪŋ/ *n* *AmE* for LEVEL CROSSING

**grade point ave-erage** /'grædpɔɪntəvərɪdʒ/ also **GPA** *abbrev.*—*n* (in the US) the average of a student's marks (GRADES<sup>1</sup> (3)) over a period of time. Each grade is given a number (A = 4, B = 3, C = 2, D = 1, F = 0) and an average is calculated. A 4.0 (pronounced "four-point-O") is the highest possible grade point average. Often these numbers are used to decide whether a HIGH SCHOOL student will be accepted into a particular college or university.

**grade school** /'grædskʊl/ *n* *AmE* old-fash for ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

**gra-di-ent** /'greɪdɪənt/ also **grade** *AmE*—*n* a degree of slope, esp. in a road or railway: *A gradient of 1 in 4 is a rise or fall of one metre for every four metres forward.* | *a steep gradient*

**grad school** /'grædskʊl/ *n* a GRADUATE SCHOOL

**grad-u-al** /'grædʒuəl/ *adj* happening or developing slowly



and by degrees; not sudden: *There has been a gradual increase in the birth rate.* | *a gradual slope* | *a gradual phasing-out of the old equipment* — ~ly adv — ~ness n [U]

**grad-u-ate**<sup>1</sup> /'grædʒuət/ n **1** a person who has completed a university degree course, esp. for a first degree — compare UNDERGRADUATE **2** AmE a person who has completed a course at a college, school, etc.: *a high school graduate*

**graduate**<sup>2</sup> n, adj AmE for POSTGRADUATE: *graduate school* | *a graduate student*

## graduates



**grad-u-ate**<sup>3</sup> /'grædʒuət/ v **1** [I (from)] to obtain a degree, esp. a first degree, at a university: *She graduated from Oxford with a first-class degree in physics.* **2** [I (from)] AmE to complete an educational course: *He graduated from high school last year.* **3** [T] to divide into levels or GRADES: *The salary scale is graduated, so I will get an annual increase.* **4** [T] tech to make marks showing degrees of measurement on: *a graduated ruler*

**graduated pen-sion scheme** /,grædʒu'eɪʃən/ n a British government PENSION SCHEME in addition to the OLD AGE PENSION. Employed people make payments according to their earnings and employers pay a similar sum.

**graduate school** /'grædʒu:əl/ also **grad school** n AmE a college or university where one can study for a MASTER'S or DOCTORATE DEGREE, having already obtained a BACHELOR'S DEGREE — see also extra information on page 408

**grad-u-a-tion** /,grædʒu'eɪʃən/ n **1** [U] (a ceremony for) the receiving of a first university degree or an American school DIPLOMA — see also extra information on page 408 **2** [C] a mark showing a measure of degree, esp. on a SCALE<sup>1</sup> (2) — compare GRADATION

**Graeco-** see WORD FORMATION

**Graf** /græf/, **Stef-fi** /'stefi/ (1969– ) a German tennis player who has won many prizes and won the women's competition at Wimbledon in 1990 and 1992

**graf-fi-ti** /græ'fi:ti, græ-/ n [U] drawings or writing on a wall, etc., esp. of a rude, humorous, or political nature: *The men's toilet is full of the usual graffiti.*

**graffiti art** /,græ'fi:ti/ n [U] graffiti, esp. names of people, painted on walls etc. in a decorative way, usu. with an AEROSOL, and considered by some people to be a kind of art



**graft**<sup>1</sup> /grɑ:ft/ n **1** [C] a piece cut from one plant and tied to or placed inside a cut in another, so that it grows there **2** [C] a piece of healthy living skin or bone taken from a person's body and placed instead of such a substance in another part of the body which has been damaged: *Her severe burns were treated with skin grafts.* **3** [U] esp. AmE the practice of obtaining money or advantage by the dishonest use of esp. political influence: *He rose to power through graft and corruption.*

**graft**<sup>2</sup> v [T (ON, onto)] to put onto a plant or body as a graft: *They grafted a piece of skin from his thigh onto his badly*

*burnt face.* | (fig.) *You could see that the last part of the report had just been grafted on as an afterthought.*

**graft**<sup>3</sup> n [U] infml, esp. BrE work: *It's hard graft peeling potatoes for a hundred people.*

**graft**<sup>4</sup> v [I] infml, esp. BrE to work hard — ~er n: *She may be slow, but she's a real grafter.*

**Gra-ham** /'greɪəm/, **Billy** (1918– ) an American EVANGELIST who has visited many countries of the world to give public speeches attempting to spread belief in Christ and the Christian religion

**Graham, Mar-tha** /'mɑ:θə || 'mɑ:r-/ (1894–1991) an American dancer and CHOREOGRAPHER remembered esp. for her work in developing modern dance

**graham crack-er** /'græm kræk-ər/ n (often cap.) a flat, plain, slightly sweet American BISCUIT: *S'more's are made with chocolate and toasted marshmallows between graham crackers.*

**Gra-hame** /'greɪəm/, **Ken-neth** /'kenɪθ/ (1859–1932) a Scottish writer famous esp. for his children's story *The Wind in the Willows*

**Grail** /greɪl/ n [the] the HOLY GRAIL

**grain** /greɪn/ n **1** [C] a single seed of rice, wheat, or other similar food plants: *a grain of rice* **2** [U] crops from plants which produce these seeds, esp. wheat: *a cargo of grain* | *the grain harvest* **3** [C (of)] a single very small piece of a hard substance: *a grain of sand/salt* | (fig.) *The story sounded most improbable, but there may be a grain of truth (=some but not much truth) in it.* — see picture at PIECE **4** [(the) U] the natural arrangement of the threads or FIBRES in wood, flesh, rock, and cloth, or the pattern of lines one sees as a result of this: *It's easiest to cut wood in the direction of the grain.* **5** [C] the smallest measure of weight, as used for medicines (1/7000 of a pound or .0648 gram) **6** go against the grain to be something that one does not like doing: *It goes against the grain for me to borrow money.* — see also with a grain of salt (SALT)

**gram** also **gramme** BrE /græm/ (written abbrev. gm) n (a measure of weight equal to) 1/1000 of a kilogram — see TABLE 2 and picture at POUND

**-gram** see WORD FORMATION

**gram-mar** /'græmə/ n **1** [U] (the study or use of) the rules by which words change their forms and are combined into sentences: *I find German grammar very difficult.* | *His pronunciation is good, but his grammar is terrible.* | *"It's 'they were', not 'they was'," he said, correcting my grammar.* **2** [C] a book which describes or teaches these rules: *an Italian grammar* | *a grammar of Italian*

**gram-ma-r-i-an** /grə'meəriən/ n a person who studies and knows about grammar, esp. a writer of grammar books

**grammar school** /'græmə skul/ n **1** (in Britain, esp. formerly) a school for children over the age of 11, who are specially chosen to study for examinations which may lead to higher education — compare COMPREHENSIVE, SECONDARY MODERN; see also ELEVEN-PLUS **2** (in the US) becoming rare an ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

**gram-mat-i-cal** /grə'mætɪkəl/ adj **1** [A no comp.] concerning grammar: *grammatical rules* **2** correct according to the rules of grammar: *"What means this word?" is not a grammatical question in modern speech.* — ~ly /kli/ adv — ~ity /grə'mætɪ'kælɪti/ n [U]

**gramme** /græm/ n GRAM

**Gram-my** /'græmi/ n an AWARD given by the US National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences for special achievement in the record industry

**gram-o-phone** /'græməfəʊn/ n old-fash for RECORD PLAYER

**gramophone rec-ord** /'græməfəʊn rɪk-əd/ n old-fash for RECORD<sup>2</sup> (4)

**Gram-pi-an** /'græmpɪən/ **1** a REGION (=area) in NE Scotland **2** one of the British television companies controlled by the ITC, transmitting programmes to NE Scotland

**Gram-pi-ans** /'græmpɪənz/ also **Grampian Moun-tains** /,græmpɪən/ [the+P] a mountain range in Scotland which includes Ben Nevis and the Cairngorms

**gram-pus** /'græmpəs/ n **1** a type of sea creature which blows out air and water; kind of WHALE **2** breathe/puff/wheeze like a grampus infml, now rare to breathe noisily

**gran** /græn/ n esp. BrE infml a grandmother

**Gra-na-da** /grə'nɑ:də/ **1** a city in S Spain famous for its



historical Moorish buildings, esp. the Alhambra palace  
**2** also **Granada Television** one of the British television companies controlled by the ITC, transmitting programmes to the NW of England **3** *tdmk* a kind of large comfortable car made by the Ford Motor Company

**grana-ry** <sup>1</sup> /'grænəri/ <sup>1</sup> *grei-*, <sup>2</sup> *græ-* / *n* a storehouse for grain, esp. wheat: (fig.) *The Midwest is often called the granary of the US.* (=because a lot of wheat is grown there)

**granary** <sup>2</sup> *adj* *BrE* (of bread) containing a mixture of white and WHOLEMEAL flours, and some whole grains of wheat: *a granary loaf* || *granary bread*

**grand** <sup>1</sup> /grænd/ *adj* **1** splendid in appearance or style; IMPRESSIVE: *How grand the mountains look in the early light.* | *a millionaire who entertained his guests on a grand scale* **2** (of a person) important but perhaps too proud: *The king's court was full of nobles and grand ladies.* **3** *old-fash infml* or *dial* very pleasant; delightful: *That was a grand party.* — *~ly adv* — *~ness n* [U]

**grand** <sup>2</sup> *n* **1** (*pl* *grands*) *infml* for GRAND PIANO: *a concert grand* | *a baby grand* (=a small one) **2** (*pl.* *grand*) *sl* a thousand pounds or dollars: *That fur coat cost me five grand!*

**gran-dad**, **granddad** /'grændæd/ *n infml* **1** a grandfather **2** (an impolite way of speaking to an old man): *Come on, grandad!*

**gran-dad-dy**, **grand-dad-dy** /'grændædi/ *n infml* **1** [*the*+*S*+*of*] the first, greatest, or most powerful example: *Louis Armstrong was the granddaddy of jazz trumpeters.* | *Last night we had the granddaddy of all thunderstorms.* **2** [C] a grandfather

**Grand Ca-nal** /,græn 'kænəl/ [*the*] **1** a CANAL in Venice, Italy, which is the main way through the town and has many famous buildings on its banks **2** a canal in E China. Part of it, connecting the Yangtze and Yellow Rivers, was built in the 5th century BC.

**Grand Ca-na-ry** /,græn 'kænəri/ an island in the Atlantic Ocean, part of the Canary Islands

**Grand Can-yon** /,græn 'kænən/ [*the*] an extremely large GORGE cut over millions of years through the rocks of Arizona, US. It is up to 1.6 km (1 mile) deep, 6–29 km (4–18 miles) wide, and over 320 km (200 miles) long, and is one of America's main tourist spots. —see colour map on pages 1374–5

**Grand Cen-tral Sta-tion** /,græn 'sentrəl 'steɪʃən/ the main railway station in New York City. Grand Central Station is a very busy place, and in the US people often mention it humorously to say how busy another place is: *Our house was like Grand Central Station last night!* —see colour map on page 1376

**grand-child** /'græntʃaɪld/ *n* **grandchildren** /'græntʃɪldrən/ (more *fml* in the singular than **granddaughter** or **grandson**) the child of someone's son or daughter

**grand-daugh-ter** /'grændaʊtə/ *n* the daughter of someone's son or daughter

**gran-dee** /græn'di:/ *n* a Spanish or Portuguese nobleman of the highest rank

**gran-deur** /'grændɜ:/ *n* [U] **1** great beauty or power, often combined with great size: *You can't help being impressed by the grandeur of the scenery in the Alps.* **2** personal importance: *He suffers from delusions of grandeur.* (=thinks he is more important than he really is)

**grand-fa-ther** /'grændfɑ:/ *n* the father of someone's father or mother

**grandfather clock** /'grændfɑ:/ *n* a tall clock which stands on the floor, with a long wooden outer case and the face at the top —see picture at CLOCK

**grand fi-na-le** /,græn 'faɪnəl/ *n* the last and most impressive or exciting part of a show etc.: *As a grand finale, the orchestra played a rousing march.*

**Grand Ho-tel** /,græn 'həʊtel/ an American film of 1932 with Joan

Crawford and Greta Garbo, about the problems of wealthy and GLAMOROUS people

**gran-dil-o-quent** /græn'dɪləkwənt/ *adj fml*, often *derog* (of a person or speech) using long important-sounding words; POMPOUS —**quence** *n* [U]

**gran-di-ose** /'grændiəʊs/ *adj usu. derog* intended to have the effect of seeming important, splendid, etc.: *He always has grandiose ideas but where's the money for them?* | *grandiose schemes*

**grand ju-ry** /,græn 'dʒʊəri/ *n* (in the US) a group of usu. 23 people chosen to consider the facts about someone who is charged with a crime, and to then decide whether a TRIAL (=a formal hearing and judging of a person) is necessary. At a trial, a smaller JURY of between 6 and 12 people decide whether a person is guilty or not. —compare COURT OF INQUIRY and see also extra information on page 742

**Grand La-ma** /,græn 'ləmə/ [*the*] the DALAI LAMA

**grand lar-ce-ny** /,græn 'lɑ:sn/ *n* [U] *AmE law* the stealing of very valuable goods

**grand-ma** /'grænmɑ:/ *n infml* a grandmother —compare GRANDPA

**grand mal** /,græn 'mæl/ *n* [U] *Fr* a serious form of the disease EPILEPSY —compare PETIT MAL

**Grandma Mo-ses** /,græn 'məʊs/ (1860–1961) an American US artist who painted colourful pictures in a PRIMITIVE<sup>2</sup> (2) style, and who did not begin painting until she was 75 years old

**Grand Mar-ni-er** /,græn 'mɑ:niə/ *n* [C;U] *tdmk* a strong alcoholic drink usu. drunk from a small glass after a meal

**grand mas-ter** /,græn 'mɑ:stə/ *n* a CHESS player of a very high level of skill

**Grand Met-ro-pol-i-tan** /,græn 'metrəpəlɪtən/ also **Grand Met** /,græn 'met/ *infml* — a British company dealing in milk products, hotels, and breweries (BREWERY)

**grand-moth-er** /'grænmʌðə/ *n* the mother of someone's father or mother —see also LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD

**Grand Na-tion-al** /,græn 'neɪʃənəl/ [*the*] a famous horse race held each year at the AINTREE course near Liverpool. Many people who never usu. show interest in racing risk their money on the horse they think will win the Grand National.

**Grand Old Duke of York** /,græn 'əʊld 'du:k əv 'jɔ:k/ *The* a character in a British NURSERY RHYME (=an old song or poem for children), often mentioned when someone seems to keep doing something and then doing the opposite:

*Oh the Grand Old Duke of York  
 He had ten thousand men,  
 He marched them up to the top of the hill  
 And he marched them down again.*

**Grand Old Man** /,græn 'əʊld 'mæn/ *n* a name given to a person who has been involved in a subject or an activity for a long time and is highly respected: *the Grand Old Man of the cinema*

**Grand Ole Op-ry** /,grænd 'əʊl 'ɒpri/ [*the*] a country music entertainment centre in Nashville, Tennessee, from which radio and television broadcasts of performers were made for many years. In 1974 it moved to **Opryland USA**, near Nashville, and is still an important centre for country music.

**grand op-e-ra** /,græn 'ɒpərə/ *n* [C;U] (an) OPERA in which all the words are sung, usu. on a serious subject

**grand-pa** /'grænpɑ:/ *n infml* a grandfather —compare GRANDMA

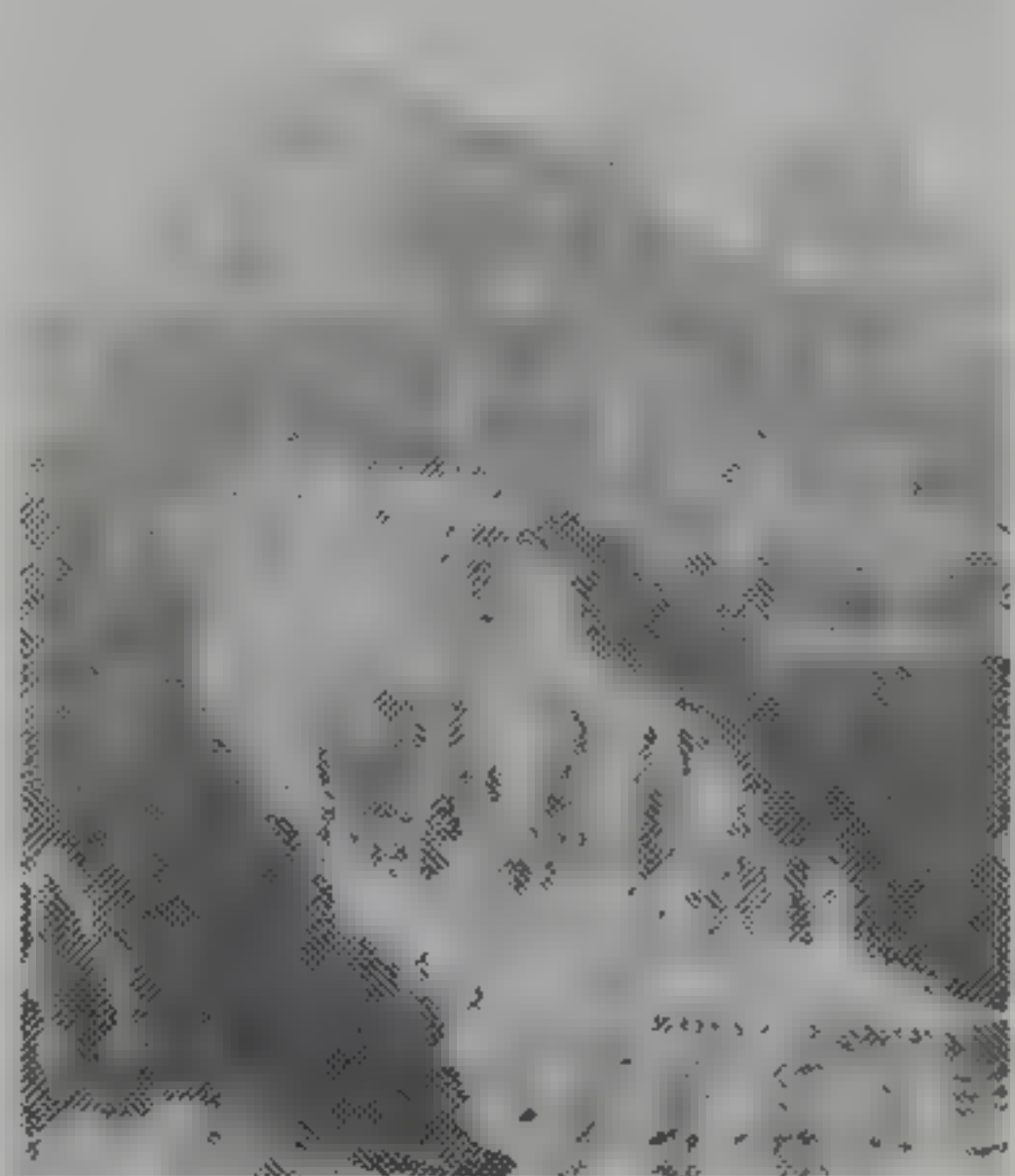
**grand-par-ent** /'grænpærənt/ *n* [*usu. pl.*] the parent of someone's father or mother

**grand pi-an-o** /,græn 'pi:ənəʊ/ also **grand** *infml* — *n* a large piano with strings set parallel to the ground, not up and down —compare UPRIGHT PIANO

**grand prix** /,græn 'pri:/ *n* *grands prix* (*same pronunciation*) *Fr* (often *caps.*) any of a set of important races, esp. car races, held under international rules

**grand slam** /,græn 'slæm/ *n* **1** the winning of all of a set of important sports competitions **2** the winning of all the card TRICKS<sup>1</sup> (5) possible at one time, esp. in the game of BRIDGE<sup>3</sup> **3** (in BASEBALL) a hit which is a HOME RUN made with players on the bases, so that four players can run to HOME BASE, gaining four runs

the Grand Canyon





- grand-son** /'grænsən/ *n* the son of someone's son or daughter
- grand-stand** /'grændstænd/ *n* a set of seats, arranged in rising rows and sometimes covered by a roof, from which people watch sports matches, races, etc.
- Grandstand** a British television sports programme on Saturday afternoons which shows matches and competitions from several different sports
- grand tour** /,· · '·/ *n* 1 [*the*] (formerly) a tour of Europe taken by upper-class young English people as part of their education: *Has she made the grand tour yet?* 2 *humor* any thorough tour of an esp. large building or place: *They took us on a grand tour of their new home.*
- Grand U-nion Ca-nal** /,· · '·/ [*the*] a CANAL opened in 1801 connecting London with the English Midlands
- grand wiz-ard** /,· · '·/ *n* (often *cap.*) the leader of the Ku Klux Klan
- grange** /greɪndʒ/ *n* (often *cap. as part of a name*) a large country house with farm buildings: *They want to buy the old grange and turn it into a hotel.* | *Askham Grange*
- gran-ite** /'græni:t/ *n* [U] a very hard usu. grey rock, used for building and making roads
- gran-ny**<sup>1</sup>, **grannie** /'græni/ *n infml* a grandmother
- granny**<sup>2</sup>, **grannie** *adj* [A] *infml, esp. BrE* of a style used by old women: *granny shoes*
- granny flat** /'· · '·/ *n* a separate place to live, within or next to a person's house, intended for an old relative, esp. a parent
- granny gear** /'· · '·/ *n* [C;U] *infml* 1 *AmE* for FOUR-WHEEL DRIVE 2 *BrE* a very low GEAR on esp. a touring bicycle
- granny knot** /'· · '·/ *n* a REEF KNOT that is crossed the wrong way and therefore comes undone easily
- Granny Smith** /,· · '·/ *n* a kind of eating apple with a green skin and hard, white, sweet flesh
- gra-no-la** /grə'nəʊlə/ *n* [U] *AmE* breakfast food made from mixed, toasted (TOAST (2)) grains, seeds, and nuts, usu. sweetened
- granola bar** /'· · '·/ *n* *AmE* for FLAPJACK (2)
- grant**<sup>1</sup> /grɑ:nt||grænt/ *v* [T] 1 *fml* to agree to fulfil or allow to be fulfilled: *They granted her request.* | *At last my wish was granted.* (=what I wished for happened) 2 *fml* to give, esp. as a favour: *In response to the lawyer's appeals, the Home Secretary granted a free pardon.* [+obj(i)+obj(d)] *The country was granted its independence in 1961.* | *They have been granted permission to pull down the old theatre.* 3 to admit the truth of (something) to (someone): *I had to grant the logic of his argument.* [+obj+(that)] *I grant you (that) the government isn't very popular at the moment, but I still think it will win the next election.* 4 **granted** yes (but): "We were very successful last year." "Granted. But can we do it again this year?" 5 **granted that** (in an argument) even though; even supposing that: *Granted that he should send money to help with the bills, it doesn't mean he will.* 6 **take something/someone for granted:** a to accept a fact or situation without questioning its rightness: *I took it for granted that you'd want to come with us, so I bought you a ticket.* b to treat someone or something with too little attention or concern; not recognize the true value of: *He's so busy with his job that he takes his family for granted.*
- grant**<sup>2</sup> *n* money given esp. by the state for a particular purpose, such as to a university or to a student during a period of study: *She finds it difficult to live on her grant.* | *We got a home improvement grant* (=money to spend on improving our house) *from the local council.*
- Grant, Car-y** /'kæri||'ke-/ (1904–86) a British-born American actor who is remembered esp. for his COMIC films, including *The Philadelphia Story* and *Bringing Up Baby*
- Grant, Russell** (1952– ) an English radio and television ASTROLOGER who also writes about his subject
- Grant, Ulysses S.** (1822–85) an American army general and commander of the UNION (=the North's) army during the American Civil War. Grant is considered most responsible for the Union winning the war. He later became the 18th president of the US (1869–77) —compare Robert E LEE
- Gran-ta** /'grɑ:ntə||'græn-/ a magazine which publishes (PUBLISH) new writing, esp. NOVELS, poetry, etc.
- grant-aided school** /,· · '·/ *n* AIDED SCHOOL
- grant-in-aid** /,· · '·/ *n* **grants-in-aid** *AmE* 1 an amount of money from taxes given by the national government to state or city governments for a specific purpose 2 an amount of money given to support a student, artist, or organization by a government or a CHARITY
- grant-main-tained school** /'· · '·/ *n* a British state school controlled by its governors and headteacher and not by the local education authority
- Grant Thorn-ton** /,grɑ:nt 'θɔ:ntən||,grænt 'θɔ:rn-/ a British ACCOUNTANCY firm
- gran-u-lar** /'grænjʊlə/ *adj* made of, full of, or covered with granules
- gran-u-lat-ed** /'grænjʊlətɪd/ *adj* (of white sugar) in the form of not very fine powder —compare CASTER SUGAR
- gran-ule** /'grænjʊ:l/ *n* a small bit like a fine grain: *a granule of sugar* | *instant coffee granules*
- grape** /greɪp/ *n* a small round juicy fruit usu. either green (called "white") or dark purple (called "black"), which grows on a VINE and is used for making wine: *a bunch of grapes* —see also SOUR GRAPES, and see picture at FRUIT
- grape-fruit** /'greɪpfɹʊt/ *n* **grapefruit** or **grapefruits** a round yellow fruit with a thick skin, like a very large orange but with a more acid taste
- Grape Nuts** /'· · '·/ [U] *tdmk* a type of breakfast CEREAL, made from wheat, which is hard and CRUNCHY
- grape-shot** /'greɪpʃɒt||-ʃɔ:t/ *n* [U] small iron balls fired together in a mass from large guns in former times
- Grapes of Wrath** /,· · '·/, *The* a book by John Steinbeck which describes the hard conditions faced by farmers who had to move away from their land in the central US during the Depression of the 1930s. It was made into a successful film. —see colour picture on page 1145
- grape-vine** /'greɪpvain/ *n* 1 [*the*+S] an unofficial way of spreading news: *I heard about your success on/through the office grapevine.* 2 [C] rare a climbing plant that bears grapes; VINE
- graph** /græf, grɑ:f||græf/ *n* a planned drawing, such as a curved line, which shows how (usu. two) different values are related to each other: *This graph shows how the number of road accidents has increased over the last ten years.* —see picture at CHART
- graph-ic**<sup>1</sup> /'græfɪk/ *adj* 1 giving a clear and detailed description or lifelike picture, esp. in words, sometimes more detailed than necessary or than one would like; VIVID: *The newspaper article gave a graphic description of the earthquake.* | *Spare me* (= don't tell me) *all the graphic details!* 2 [A no comp.] concerned with or including drawing, printing, LETTERING, etc.: *The graphic arts include calligraphy and lithography.*
- graphic**<sup>2</sup> *n* [usu. pl.] a drawing or similar representation of an object: *The graphics on the package suggest a high-tech product* —see also COMPUTER GRAPHICS
- graph-i-cally** /'græfɪkli/ *adv* 1 in a graphic manner: *She described the events so graphically that I could almost see them.* 2 *fml* by means of a graph: *It is easier to represent these statistics graphically than to describe them in words.*
- graphic de-sign** /,· · '·/ *n* [U] the art of combining pictures, words, and decoration in the making of books, magazines, advertisements, etc. — ~er *n*
- graph-ite** /'græfaɪt/ *n* [U] a black substance which is a kind of CARBON and is used for the writing material in the middle of pencils (when it is usu. called "lead") and also in paints, oil for machines, and electrical equipment
- gra-phol-o-gy** /græ'fɒlədʒi||-'fa:-/ *n* [U] the study of handwriting as a guide to character —gist *n*
- graph pa-per** /'· · '·/ *n* [U] paper with squares marked on it, on which GRAPHS can be easily measured out and drawn
- grap-nel** /'græpnəl/ *n* a grappling iron
- Grap-pel-li** /grə'peli/, **Stéph-ane** /'stefən||ste'fɑ:n/ (1908– ) a French JAZZ musician who plays the VIOLIN
- grap-ple** /'græpəl/ *v*
- grapple with sbdy./sthg.** *phr v* [T] 1 to take hold of and struggle with: *She grappled with the bank robber, but was thrown to the ground.* 2 to work hard to deal with something difficult: *Don't interrupt John; he's grappling with the accounts.*
- grappling i-ron** /'· · '·/ also **grappling hook** /'· · '·/ — *n* an



iron instrument with several hooks, which when tied to a rope can be used for holding a boat still, for searching for an object on the bottom of a river or lake, or (formerly) for pulling an enemy's boat close to one's own

**Gras-mere** /'grɑ:smɪə/ || 'græs-/ a village in the Lake District, NW England, near a lake which is also called Gras-mere. The village is famous as the home of the poet William Wordsworth, whose house, Dove Cottage, is popular with tourists.

**grasp**<sup>1</sup> /grɑ:sp/ || 'græsp/ *v* [T] **1** to take or keep a firm hold of, esp. with the hands: *Grasp the rope with both hands.* **2** to succeed in understanding: *I think I grasped the main points of the speech.* | *They failed to grasp the full significance of these events.* **3** to try or be eager to take: *to grasp an opportunity* **4** **grasp the nettle** to deal firmly with an unpleasant job or subject —see CLASP<sup>2</sup> (USAGE)  
**grasp at sthg.** *phr v* [T] to reach for; try to take or hold: (fig.) *He grasped at the first flimsy excuse that came to his mind.*

**grasp**<sup>2</sup> *n* [S] **1** a firm hold with the hands or arms: *I kept her hand in my grasp.* | *The kitten wriggled out of my grasp.* **2** one's power or ability to reach or gain something: *Success is within our grasp.* **3** one's power or ability to understand something: *This work is beyond my grasp.* | *She seems to have a good grasp of the subject.* **4** esp. *lit* control or power: *in the grasp of wicked men*

**grasp-ing** /'grɑ:spɪŋ/ || 'græs-/ *adj* *derog* eager for more, esp. more money, and often ready to use unfair or dishonest methods: *Don't let those grasping taxidriviers overcharge you.*

**grass**<sup>1</sup> /grɑ:s/ || 'græs/ *n* **1** [U] various kinds of common low-growing green plants whose blades and stems are eaten by sheep, cows, etc., on hills and in fields **2** [U] land covered by grass: *Don't walk on the grass.* | *I'm just going to cut the grass.* (=LAWN) **3** [C *usu. pl.*; U] any of various green plants with tall straight stems and flat blades: *He hid behind some tall grasses.* | *There was an attractive arrangement of dried grasses in the vase.* **4** [C] *BrE derog sl* someone, often a criminal, who informs the police about the (other) people concerned in a crime; INFORMER —see also SUPERGRASS **5** [U] *sl* for MARIJUANA **6** **let the grass grow under one's feet** [*usu. in negatives*] to delay action; waste time in inactivity: *As soon as you approve it I'll get started — I'm not one to let the grass grow under my feet!* **7** **out to grass** *BrE*, **out to pasture** *infml* no longer working: *Some of these old judges are nearly 80, you know; it's time they were put out to grass!* **8** **the grass is always greener on the other side of the fence** saying something that you have not got always seems more attractive or exciting than the thing that you have got

**grass**<sup>2</sup> *v* **1** [T (OVER)] to cover (land) with grass **2** [I (on)] *BrE sl* (esp. of a criminal) to inform the police about the action of (other) criminals

**Grass** /græs/, **Gün-ter** /'gjuntə/, 'gun-/ (1927– ) a German poet and writer of books and plays known esp. for his book *The Tin Drum*

**grass-hop-per** /'grɑ:s,hɒpə/ || 'græs,hɑ:z-/ *n* an insect which can jump high and makes a sharp noise by rubbing its legs against its body —see also **knee-high to a grasshopper** (KNEE-HIGH)

**grass-land** /'grɑ:slænd/ || 'græs-/ also **grasslands** *pl.* — *n* [U] a stretch of land covered mainly with grass, esp. wild open land used for cattle to feed on

**grass roots** /, · ' / *n* [P] the ordinary people or ordinary members of a group, rather than the ones with power or special knowledge: *Opñion at (the) grass roots (level) is sympathetic to the strikers.* | *Grass roots opinion is in favour of a strike.*

**grass snake** /, · ' / *n* a non-poisonous snake found in many parts of Europe

**grass wid-ow** /, · ' / *grass wid-ow-er* /, · ' / *masc.* — *n* sometimes *humor* a woman whose husband is away for a period of time

**gras-sy** /'grɑ:si/ || 'græsi/ *adj* covered with growing grass

**grate**<sup>1</sup> /greɪt/ *n* the bars and frame which hold the coal, wood, etc., in an old-fashioned fireplace —see picture at FIREPLACE

**grate**<sup>2</sup> *v* **1** [T] to rub (esp. food) against a rough or sharp surface so as to break it into small pieces: *grated cheese*

**2** [I (on)] to make a sharp sound, unpleasant to the hearer: *The teacher's chalk grated on the blackboard.* | *His monotonous whistling grated on her nerves.* —see also GRATING<sup>2</sup>

**grate-ful** /'greɪtfəl/ *adj* [(for, to)] feeling or showing thanks to another person: *I was most grateful to John for bringing the books for his kindness.* | *The rescuers deserve our grateful thanks.* [F+(that)] *I'm grateful that you didn't tell my husband about this.* [F+ to-v] *We were grateful to get back on dry land after our rough boat trip.* —opposite **un-grateful** — *~ly adv* — *~ness n* [U]

**grat-er** /'greɪtə/ *n* an instrument for grating things into small pieces, often one having or consisting of a metal surface full of sharp-edged holes: *a cheese grater*

**grat-i-fy** /'grætɪfaɪ/ *v* [T] *fml* **1** [often *pass.*] to give pleasure and satisfaction to: *I was gratified/It gratified me to see how much my wedding present was appreciated.* **2** to satisfy (a desire): *Now she has a job in France she can gratify her desire to see Europe.* —**fi-cation** /,grætɪfə'keɪʃən/ *n* [C;U]: *His family's success was a great gratification to him in his old age.*

**grat-i-fy-ing** /'grætɪfaɪ-ɪŋ/ *adj* giving pleasure and satisfaction: *It is gratifying to see the widespread response to our charity appeal.* — *~ly adv*

**grat-ing**<sup>1</sup> /'greɪtɪŋ/ *n* a frame or network of bars, usu. metal, to protect a hole or window: *The rainwater ran along the gutter into a grating at the side of the road.* (=one which covers a hole connecting with a water system)

**grating**<sup>2</sup> *adj* (of a noise or sound) sharp, hard, and unpleasant —see also GRATE<sup>2</sup> (2) — *~ly adv*

**grat-is** /'grætɪs, 'greɪtɪs/ *adv, adj* [F] free; (given) without payment

**grat-i-tude** /'grætɪtju:d/ || -tuz-/ *n* [U (to, for)] the state or feeling of being grateful; kind feelings towards someone who has been kind: *She showed me her gratitude by inviting me to dinner.* | *We all owe a debt of gratitude to the local council, without whose help this event could not have been staged.* —opposite **ingratitude**

**gra-tu-i-tous** /grə'tju:ɪtəs/ || -tuz-/ *adj fml* **1** *derog* not deserved or necessary: *a gratuitous insult* | *an unpleasant film with a lot of gratuitous violence in it* **2** rare done freely, without reward or payment being expected — *~ly adv* — *~ness n* [U]

**gra-tu-i-ty** /grə'tju:ɪti/ || -tuz-/ *n* **1** *fml* a gift of money for a service done; TIP<sup>3</sup>, **2** esp. *BrE* a gift of money to a worker or member of the armed forces when they leave their employment

**grave**<sup>1</sup> /greɪv/ *n* **1** [C] the place in the ground where a dead person is buried —compare TOMB **2** [*the+S*] esp. *lit* death: *Is there life beyond the grave?* | *The state takes care of its people from the cradle to the grave.* (=from birth to death) **3** **turn in one's grave** (of someone who is dead) to be very annoyed or worried if they were still alive: *The way young people behave nowadays would make my grandfather turn in his grave.* —see also **dig one's own grave** (DIG<sup>1</sup>), **have one foot in the grave** (FOOT<sup>1</sup>), **silent as the grave** (SILENT<sup>1</sup>)

**grave**<sup>2</sup> *adj* **1** giving cause for worry and/or needing urgent attention; very serious: *grave news* | *The situation poses a grave threat to peace.* | *a matter of grave concern* **2** serious or solemn in manner: *His face was grave as he told them about the accident.* —see also GRAVITY (2) — *~ly adv*

**grave**<sup>3</sup> /grɑ:v/ *adj* [A] (of an ACCENT<sup>1</sup> (3)) put above a letter to show pronunciation) being the mark over è —compare ACUTE (6), CIRCUMFLEX

**grav-el**<sup>1</sup> /'grævəl/ *n* [U] small stones usu. mixed with sand and used to make a surface for paths, roads, etc.: *a gravel pit* (=place where gravel is dug out of the ground)

**gravel**<sup>2</sup> *v* *BrE -ll-* || *-l-* *AmE* [T often *pass.*] to cover (a path or road) with gravel: *a gravelled path*

**grav-el-ly** /'grævəli/ *adj* **1** of, containing, or covered with gravel **2** having a low rough hard sound; GRATING<sup>2</sup>: *a gravelly voice*

**Graves** /greɪvz/, **Rob-ert** /'rɒbət/ || 'rɑ:bərt/ (1895–1985) an English poet and writer, known to many people for his HISTORICAL NOVELS *I, Claudius* and *Claudius the God*, which were made into a very successful SERIES of television programmes

**grave-stone** /'greɪvstəʊn/ also **tombstone** — *n* a stone put



up over a grave bearing the name, dates of birth and death, etc., of the dead person

**grave-yard** /'greɪvjɑ:d||-jɑ:rd/ *n* a piece of ground, sometimes around a church, where people are buried; a CEMETERY or CHURCHYARD: (fig.) *The area had become a graveyard for old cars.* (=a place where people left them) —compare CEMETERY, CHURCHYARD

**graveyard shift** /'.. ɪ/ *n* AmE infml for NIGHT SHIFT

**grav-i-tas** /'grævɪtəs/ *n* [U] fml seriousness of manner which causes respect or trust

**grav-i-tate** /'grævɪteɪt/ *v*

**gravitate to/towards** sthg. *phr v* [T] **1** to be attracted by and move gradually towards: *In the 19th century, industry gravitated towards the north of England.* | *From amateur tennis he eventually gravitated to the professional circuit.* **2** to fall or be drawn towards something, under the influence of gravity: *However often you mix it up in the water, the mud will gravitate towards the bottom again.*

**grav-i-ta-tion** /,grævɪ'teɪʃən/ *n* [U] **1** [+ to, towards] the process of gravitating towards something **2** GRAVITY (1) —~**al** *adj*: gravitational forces | *They had entered the planet's gravitational field.*

**grav-i-ty** /'grævɪti/ *n* [U] **1** the natural force by which objects are attracted to each other, esp. that by which a large mass pulls a smaller one to it. It is one of the four FUNDAMENTAL FORCES of nature: *Anything that is dropped falls towards the ground because of the force of gravity.* —see also ISAAC NEWTON **2** fml a worrying importance: *He doesn't seem to understand the gravity of the situation.* **b** seriousness of manner —see also GRAVE<sup>2</sup>, CENTRE OF GRAVITY

**gra-vure** /grə'vjʊə/ *n* [U] the method of printing from copper or wooden plates on which a picture has been marked

**gra-vy** /'greɪvi/ *n* [U] **1** the juice which comes out of meat as it cooks, thickened with flour, etc., to serve with meat and vegetables **2** sl, esp. AmE something pleasing or valuable that happens or is gained easily

**gravy boat** /'.. ɔ/ *n* a small deep long-shaped container with a handle, from which gravy can be poured at a meal —see picture at JUG

**gravy train** /'.. ɪ/ *n* [the+S] infml, esp. AmE something from which many people can make money or profit without much effort, and which one would therefore like to join in: *There's so much money invested in this political campaign that everyone's trying to climb on the gravy train.*

**gray**<sup>1</sup> /greɪ/ *adj, v* AmE for GREY<sup>1, 3</sup>: gray hair | *Her hair is graying.*

**gray**<sup>2</sup> *n* AmE **1** [C;U] GREY<sup>2</sup> **2** [C] (usu. cap.) (a member of) the Confederate (CONFEDERATE<sup>2</sup> (3)) army

**Gray**<sup>1</sup>, Dorian see PICTURE OF DORIAN GRAY

**Gray**<sup>2</sup>, Thomas (1716–71) an English poet whose best-known work, *Elegy written in a Country Churchyard*, is usually called **Gray's Elegy**

**Gray's Inn** /ɪ. ɪ/ one of the four Inns of Court in London —see INNS OF COURT

**graze**<sup>1</sup> /greɪz/ *v* **1** [I;T] (of an animal) to feed on growing grass (in): *The cattle are grazing (in the field).* **2** [T] to cause (an animal) to feed on grass: *We can't graze the cattle till summer.* | *The bottom field is being kept for grazing.*

**graze**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T] **1** to break the surface of (esp. the skin) by rubbing against something: *She fell down and grazed her knee.* **2** to touch (something) lightly while passing: *The wing seemed to graze the treetops as the plane climbed away.* | *The car just grazed the gate as it drove through.*

**graze**<sup>3</sup> *n* [usu. sing.] a surface wound: *She has a nasty graze on her elbow.*

**GRE** /dʒi: ɑ:r ɪ:z/ *n* (in the US) Graduate Record Exam; an examination which any graduate can take. The resulting mark is then sent to graduate schools that the student would like to attend, and the graduate schools generally choose those students with the highest marks. The GRE is managed by a private company, and students can take it again to improve their results. —compare SAT

**grease**<sup>1</sup> /grɪ:s/ *n* [U] **1** animal fat when soft after being melted: *You'll never get the bacon grease off the plates if you don't use detergent.* **2** any thick oily substance, esp. one used to help the moving parts of machines to run

smoothly: *Put some grease on the door hinges to stop them squeaking.* | *He puts grease on his hair to make it shiny.*

**grease**<sup>2</sup> /grɪ:s, grɪ:z/ *v* [T] **1** to put grease on: *Grease the dish with butter before pouring in the egg mixture.* | *Ask the mechanic to grease the axle.* **2** grease someone's palm infml to give money to someone in a secret or dishonest way in order to persuade them to do something —see also OIL THE WHEELS (OIL<sup>2</sup>)

**greased light-ning** /ɪ. ɪ/ *n* [U] infml something extremely fast: *You should see Carl Smith run the 100 metres; he's like greased lightning!*

**grease gun** /ɪ. ɪ/ *n* a hand instrument for forcing GREASE<sup>1</sup> (2) into machinery

**grease-paint** /'grɪ:s-peɪnt/ *n* [U] a thick soft substance that comes in many colours and is used by actors and actresses on their faces, hands, etc., to change their appearance when acting

**grease-proof pa-per** /,grɪ:s-pru:f ˈpeɪpə/ *n* [U] a type of paper which grease or oil cannot pass through, used in Britain esp. for wrapping food or in cooking

**greas-er** /'grɪ:sə, -zə/ *n* **1** a person who puts grease on machinery to make it run smoothly **2** AmE taboo derog a person from Latin America, esp. Mexico

**greas-y** /'grɪ:si, -zi/ *adj* **1** covered with or containing grease: greasy food/skin/hair **2** slippery: *The roads are greasy after the rain.* **3** derog insincerely polite; SMARMY: *I detest his greasy smile.* —~**iness** *n* [U]

**greasy spoon** /ɪ. ɪ/ *n* sl a cheap often dirty restaurant that mainly serves fried food (FRY)

**great**<sup>1</sup> /greɪt/ *adj* **1** very large in degree or amount: *Take great care.* | *The show was a great success.* | *I lost a great deal of money.* | *There were a great many people there.* | *She lived to a great age.* (=to be very old) | *The sense of loss we felt at his death was very great.* | *It gives me great pleasure to introduce our special guest for this evening.* | *The plan as supported by the great majority of* (=nearly all) *the members* **2** of excellent quality or ability: *a great war leader* | *a great achievement* | *In my view she's one of the greatest modern novelists.* | *Muhammad Ali, the boxing champion, called himself "the Greatest".* **3** [A] of special importance and seriousness: *Most great state occasions, like coronations, are televised nowadays.* | *one of the great political issues of our times* **4** [(at)] infml splendid; very good: *What a great idea!* | *This new singer is really great!* | *I think this new singer has a great future.* (=will be very successful) | *"I've got the use of a car."* "Great! We can go to the seaside." | *He's really great at playing the guitar.* | *It's great to see you again!* **5** [A] (of a person) unusually active in the stated way: *He's a great talker.* (=talks a lot) | *We're great* (=very close) *friends.* **6** [A] infml (usu. with another adjective of size) big: *That great (big) tree takes away all the light.* | *There's a huge great spider in the bath!* **7** [A] (used in names to mark something important of its type): *King Alfred the Great* —see also GREATER **8** go great guns infml to get on with great speed and success **9** great with child bibl for PREGNANT **10** no great shakes infml not very good, skilful, effective, etc.: *I'm no great shakes as a pianist, but I can play a few simple tunes.* **11** he/she/it has gone to the great... in the sky infml humor he/she/it has died: *Old Fred the cat has gone to the great mouse-hunting ground in the sky.* **12** some men are born great, some achieve greatness, and some have greatness thrust upon them quote a phrase from Shakespeare's play *Twelfth Night* **13** great- : a being the parent of a grandfather or grandmother: great-grandfather b being the child of a child of a son or daughter: great-granddaughter c being the brother or sister of a grandfather or grandmother: great-aunt d being the child of a NEPHEW or NIECE: great-nephew —see BIG (USAGE), see also GREATLY —~**ness** *n* [U]

**great**<sup>2</sup> *n* greats or great an important or leading person: *Charlie Chaplin is one of the all-time greats of the cinema.* | *He's always talking about his connections with the great.*

**Great Bar-rier Reef** /ɪ. ɪ... ɪ/ [the] the largest CORAL REEF<sup>1</sup> in the world, off the NE coast of Australia. It is around 2000 km (1250 miles) long.

**Great Bear** /ɪ. ɪ/ [the] a group of stars

**Great Brit-ain** /ɪ. ɪ/ see UK (USAGE)

**great cir-cle** /ɪ. ɪ/ *n* a circle on the Earth's surface, with



the centre of the Earth as its centre: *The great circle route is the quickest way to fly from London to Beijing.*

**great-coat** /'greɪtkəʊt/ *n* a heavy usu. military OVERCOAT

**Great Crash** /,grɪt 'kræʃ/ [the] the CRASH<sup>2</sup> (5)

**Great Dane** /,grɪt 'dæni/ *n* a very large tall dog with smooth hair

**Great De-pres-sion** /,grɪt 'di:preʃən/ [the] a very severe economic DEPRESSION (=period of reduced business activity and high unemployment) in the 1930s which followed a CRASH (=business failure) on WALL STREET (=the US STOCK MARKET) in October 1929. The US was esp. involved, with 16 million people unemployed in 1933. The effects of the Great Depression were also felt in Europe.

**Great Di-vid-e** /,grɪt 'daɪvɪd/ *n* [the] CONTINENTAL DIVIDE

**Great-er** /'greɪtə/ *adj* [A] (in names) including the outer areas of a city: *Greater Manchester* | *the Greater Buffalo area*

**Greater Lon-don** /,grɪtə 'lɒndən/ a local government area including the whole of London and parts of other areas surrounding London

**Greater Man-ches-ter** /,grɪtə 'mæntʃəstə/ a former COUNTY in NW England including the whole of Manchester and parts of other counties

**Great Ex-hi-bi-tion** /,grɪt 'eksɪbɪʃən/ [the] an EXHIBITION in the Crystal Palace in London in 1851. It was intended to show human progress, esp. in science and TECHNOLOGY.

**Great Ex-pec-ta-tions** /,grɪt 'ekspektəʃən/ a NOVEL by Charles Dickens about a young man who believes that he will become rich by inheriting (INHERIT) money

**Great Fire of Lon-don** /,grɪt 'faɪə/ [the] a fire in 1666 which started in a baker's shop in Pudding Lane, London. Thousands of buildings were destroyed but only four people were killed.

**Robert Redford and Mia Farrow in *The Great Gatsby***



**Great Gats-by** /,grɪt 'gætsbi/, *The* a book by F. Scott Fitzgerald about rich, GLAMOROUS people in the US in the Jazz Age (the 1920s)

**Great Lakes** /,grɪt 'leɪks/ [the] a group of five lakes along the US-Canadian border. They form part of an important shipping and are popular with tourists many of whom go esp. to see Niagara Falls. —see colour map on pages 1374–5

**Great Leap For-ward** /,grɪt 'li:p fɔ: wɔ: d/ [the] a programme of bringing more people into industry in China (1959–60) in an attempt to improve the country's economic situation. The Great Leap Forward did not work, because the country was producing less food than the government had thought, and many people died of hunger.

**great-ly** /'greɪtli/ *adv* (with verb forms, esp. past participles) to a large degree; very: *Her reading has improved greatly since she changed schools.* | *The effects of this policy have been greatly exaggerated by its opponents.*

**Great Or-mond Street Hos-pi-tal** /grɪt 'ɔ: mɒnd stri:t 'hɒspɪtl/ -'ɔ: r-, -'hɔ: r/ a children's hospital in London

**Great Plains** /,grɪt 'pleɪnz/ [the] a large area of flat, high land in the western central US

**Great Rift Val-ley** /,grɪt 'væli/ [the] a very deep, wide valley

which is 3000 miles long and runs across most of E Africa and into SW Asia

**Great Salt Lake** /,grɪt 'sɔ: l/ [the] a lake in the US state of Utah which is about 70 miles long and has strong salt water —see colour map on pages 1374–5

**Great Seal of the U-ni-t-ed States** /,grɪt 'si:l əv ðə 'ju: nɪtəd steɪt/ [the] an official mark which represents the authority of the US government. It shows an EAGLE (=kind of large bird) on one side and a PYRAMID on the other. Both sides can be seen on the back of a \$1 bill.

**Great Smok-y Moun-tains** /,grɪt 'smɒki maʊntənz/ also **Great Smokies** /,grɪt 'smɒki/ [the+P] a range of mountains along the border between the US states of North Carolina and Tennessee

**Great Train Rob-be-ry** /,grɪt 'treɪn rɒbəri/ [the] the name given to an event in 1963 when several men robbed a mail train in Britain and escaped with over £2,000,000. It is still remembered because of the large amount of money involved and because not all the men were caught. —see also Ronald BIGGS

**Great U-ni-ver-sal Stores** /,grɪt 'ju: nɪvərsəl steɪz/ a British MAIL ORDER company

**Great Wall of Chi-na** /,grɪt 'wɔ: l əv tʃaɪ n/ [the] an ancient wall built across N China for defence purposes

**Great War** /,grɪt 'wɔ: / [the] BrE the FIRST WORLD WAR

**Great West-ern** /,grɪt 'westən/ [the] a PADDLE STEAMER built in 1838 by I. K. Brunel. The Great Western was the first steam ship made specially for carrying passengers across the Atlantic Ocean.

**Great Western Rail-way** /,grɪt 'westən reɪlweɪ/ [the] a British railway built by I. K. Brunel and opened in 1841 to connect London and Bristol

**Greaves** /'gri:vz/, **Jimmy** (1940– ) a former England footballer now introducing sports programmes on British television and well-known for his direct opinions. He is often called **Greavsie**.

**grebe** /'gri:b/ *n* a bird rather like a duck but with separate toes, which can swim under water in lakes and rivers

**Gre-cian** /'gri:tʃən/ *adj* *lit* (of style or appearance) Greek, esp. of ancient Greece

**Greco, El** see EL GRECO

**Greco-** see WORD FORMATION

**Greece** /gri:s/ a country in SE Europe; capital Athens; population 10,031,000 (1989). It is considered by many people to be the birthplace of many of the arts and sciences, and it is also a popular place for holidays.

**greed** /gri:d/ *n* [U (for)] *usu. derog* a strong desire to have a lot of something, esp. food, money, or power, often in a way that is selfish or unfair to other people: *It was pure greed that made me finish all those chocolates!* | *The speculators' greed (for profit) has left several small investors penniless.*

**greed-y** /'gri:di/ *adj* 1 *usu. derog* full of greed for food: *Don't be so greedy — leave some of the food for the rest of us.* | *You greedy pig!* 2 [F+for] full of a strong desire (for): *greedy for power/fame* —*ily adv* —*iness n* [U]

**greedy-guts** /'grɪdi gʌts/ *n infml, esp. BrE* (used esp. by children) a person who likes to eat too much; GLUTTON

**Greek<sup>1</sup>** /gri:k/ *n* 1 [U] the language of ancient or modern Greece 2 [C] a person who comes from Greece or whose parents come from Greece 3 [C] AmE a member of a FRATERNITY or a SORORITY at a college or university 4 **beware of Greeks bearing gifts** a warning not to trust someone who seems to be being kind to you because they may wish to harm you (from the story of the Trojan Horse)

**Greek<sup>2</sup>** *adj* 1 of the people, language, art, etc. of Greece 2 **be all Greek to someone** *infml* (esp. of speech or writing) to be beyond someone's understanding: *She tried to explain her theories about modern poetry but it was all Greek to me.* 3 AmE of a FRATERNITY or a SORORITY

**Greek god** /,grɪk 'ɡɒd/ *n* a very good-looking man: *He's not exactly a Greek god, but he's very nice.*

**Greek Or-tho-dox** /,grɪk 'ɔ: θɒdɒks/ *adj* of or belonging to the Greek Orthodox Church: *a Greek Orthodox priest*

**Greek Orthodox Church** /,grɪk 'ɔ: θɒdɒks tʃɜ:ʃ/ [the] a branch of the Christian Church in E Europe and SW Asia, which split



away from the Western (now Catholic) Church in 1054 AD

**green**<sup>1</sup> /grɪn/ *adj* 1 of a colour between yellow and blue, which is the colour of leaves and grass: *The countryside is very green* (=covered in fresh grass and leaves) *in spring*. | *A green salad has only green vegetables, such as lettuce and cucumber*. | *When the traffic lights turn green you can go*. | *I painted the door green*. —see also BOTTLE GREEN 2 (of a plant) of this colour when young or unripe: *Green apples are sour*. | *Wood which is green is not dry enough to burn*. 3 concerned with, or not causing harm to, the environment; ENVIRONMENT FRIENDLY: *He's very green-minded/very green*. | *Our local government is very green — they won't allow chemicals to be dumped in the river*. 4 *infml* unhealthily pale in the face because of sickness, fear, etc.: *She turned green when she smoked her first cigarette*. —see also green about the gills (GILL<sup>1</sup>) 5 *infml* young and/or inexperienced and therefore easily deceived and ready to believe anything 6 [F] *infml* very jealous: *He was absolutely green (with envy) when he saw my new Jaguar car*. 7 *lit* (esp. of a memory) fresh, strong, and full of life, in spite of the passing of time — ~ness /'grɪn-nəs/ *n* [U]

**green**<sup>2</sup> *n* 1 [C;U] the colour which is green: *She was dressed in green*. | *The room was decorated in bright greens and blues*. 2 [C] a smooth stretch of grass for a special purpose, such as for playing a game or for the general use of the people of a town: *They are dancing on the green*. | *The golfer got to the green in one stroke*. —see also GREENS, BOWLING GREEN, VILLAGE GREEN and see picture at GOLF

**green**<sup>3</sup> *v* [T] to fill with growing plants, esp. so as to lessen the ugliness caused by human activity on the Earth: *the greening of our cities*

**Green**<sup>1</sup> *adj* of the Green Party: *Green issues* | *a Green spokeswoman*

**Green**<sup>2</sup> *n* (a member or supporter of) the Green Party: *There are a lot of Greens in Devon*. | *I'm voting Green* (=for the Green Party) *this year*.

**Green-a-way** /'grɪnəweɪ/, Kate /keɪt/ (1846–1901) an English painter known for her pictures for children's books

**green-back** /'grɪnbæk/ *n* *old-fash AmE infml* an American banknote, esp. a one-dollar bill

**green bean** /, · ' / also **French bean** *BrE*— *n* a bean having a narrow green case (POD) used as a vegetable. Both the contents and the case are eaten.

**green belt** /, · ' / *n* [C;U] *esp. BrE* a stretch of land, round a town or city, where building is not allowed, so that fields, woods, etc., remain

**green ber-et** /, · ' · ' / *n* a member of a special force of soldiers in the US Army who wear special green hats and are thought to be esp. brave

**green card** /, · ' / *n* 1 *BrE* a document of motor insurance protecting vehicles driven abroad: *Have you got your green card?* 2 *AmE* a document necessary in order to work legally in the US: *I'm getting my green card in another six months*.

**green cross code** /, · ' / *[the] BrE* a set of rules for children on how to cross roads safely

**Greene** /grɪn/, **Graham** (1904–91) an English writer of NOVELS and plays, famous esp. for the novel *Brighton Rock* and for the film *The Third Man*, for which he wrote the story

**green-e-ry** /'grɪnəri/ *n* [U] green leaves and plants (FOLIAGE), esp. when used for decoration —compare GREENS (2)

**green-eyed mon-ster** /, · ' · ' / *n* *[the] lit or humor* jealousy

**green fin-gers** /, · ' · ' / *n* [P] *esp. BrE* || **green thumb** *esp. AmE*— natural skill in making plants grow well —**green-fingered** *adj*

**green-fly** /'grɪnflaɪ/ *n* **greenfly** or **greenflies** a very small green insect which feeds on the juice from young plants: *The roses have got greenfly again*.

**green-gage** /'grɪngeɪdʒ/ *n* a soft juicy greenish-yellow fruit; kind of PLUM

**Green Gi-ant** /, · ' · ' / *n* *tdmk* a company which produces tinned and frozen (FREEZE (5)) vegetables; it is best known for its SWEETCORN

**green-gro-cer** /'grɪn,grəʊsə/ *n* *esp. BrE* a person who

owns or works in a shop (**greengrocer's**) which sells vegetables and fruit: *I bought some onions at the greengrocer's*. —compare GROCER

**Green-ham Com-mon** /,grɪnəm 'kɒmən||-'kɑː/ an airforce base at the village of Greenham Common in S England for British and American soldiers. Since 1981 groups of women have been camping around the base, originally protesting against the NUCLEAR weapons, esp. the CRUISE MISSILES, which were kept there. —compare MOLESWORTH

**green-horn** /'grɪnhɔːn||-hɔːrn/ *n infml* an inexperienced person, usu. male, esp. one who is easily cheated

**green-house** /'grɪnhaʊs/ *n* -houses /,haʊzɪz/ a building with a glass roof and glass sides and often some form of heating, used for growing plants which need heat, light, and freedom from winds. Many people have them in their gardens to protect young plants from the cold before planting them outside, or to store plants for the winter.

**greenhouse ef-fect** /'· · · / *[the]* the gradual slight warming of the air surrounding the Earth because heat cannot escape through its upper levels, said to be caused by POLLUTION (2) in the air. Some people do not believe that the greenhouse effect exists, while others blame every change in the weather on it —see also GLOBAL WARMING

**greenhouse gas** /'· · · / *n* a gas, esp. CARBON DIOXIDE or METHANE, which is thought to trap heat above the Earth and cause the greenhouse effect

**green-ish** /'grɪnɪʃ/ *adj* slightly green

**Green Jackets** *n* [P] see ROYAL GREEN JACKETS

**Green-land** /'grɪnlænd, -lənd/ an island in the N Atlantic near NE Canada; capital Godthaab (Nuuk); population 56,000 (1989). Greenland belongs to Denmark but has a great deal of independence.

**green light** /, · ' / *[the]* permission, esp. official permission, to begin an action: *We're ready to rebuild our house; we're just waiting for the green light from the Council*. —compare RED LIGHT

**green-light** /'grɪnlaɪt/ *v* **greenlighted** [T] *AmE sl* to give the authority to happen, esp. for something that needs a lot of money: *Will Congress greenlight the new aid program?* | *Only the studio heads can greenlight new movies*.

**green-mail** /'grɪnmeɪl/ *n* [U] *AmE* money that a company uses to buy back shares from someone who has attempted a TAKEOVER —**greenmail** *v* [T]: *Acme Appliances is greenmailing the Harris Group to regain control of the company*.

**green on-ion** /, · ' · ' / *n* *AmE* for SPRING ONION

**green pa-per** /, · ' · ' / *n* a small book put out by the British government containing suggestions to be talked about which may later be used in making new laws —compare WHITE PAPER, BILL<sup>1</sup> (2)

**Green Par-ty** /, · ' · ' / *n* 1 *[the]* a British political party started in 1973 which wants a NUCLEAR-free society and whose ideas centre around caring for the environment. Originally it was called the Ecology Party, changing its name in 1985 in order to get closer to similar European parties. 2 [C] any of a number of European political parties whose ideas are concerned with care of the environment: *Are they a green party?*

**Green-peace** /'grɪnpɪːs/ an international organization which actively works to protect the environment from harm. It is known esp. for its direct non-violent actions and wants to stop damage to the environment caused by NUCLEAR testing, the pouring of poisonous waste into the sea, and the killing of WHALES.

**green pep-per** /, · ' · ' / also **sweet pepper** || also **bell pepper** *AmE*— *n* a vegetable with firm shiny green flesh and white seeds used raw or cooked to give a particular taste to food

**green pound** /, · ' / *[the]* the unit of CURRENCY used in the European Community's Common Agricultural Policy as a value of the pound STERLING. The use of **green money** is to protect farm prices from changes in the EXCHANGE RATE

**green rev-o-lu-tion** /, · ' · ' · ' / *[the]* a large increase in crop production, esp. the one that happened around the world in the 1960s and 1970s as a result of using better varieties of plants and more chemicals

**green-room** /'grɪnrʊm, -rum/ *n* a room behind the stage



(BACKSTAGE) in a theatre or television studio, where performers may relax

**greens** /grɪnz/ *n* [P] 1 green leafy vegetables that are cooked and eaten 2 *AmE* leaves and branches used for decoration, esp. at Christmas —compare GREENERY 3 [the] (cap) (supporters of) the Green Party

**Green Shield Stamp** /ˌɡrɪnˌʃɪld ˈstæmp/ *n* [C *usu.* P] *tdmk* a type of TRADING STAMP, also called a **Green Stamp**. Green Shield stamps are probably the best-known trading stamps in Britain, introduced in the 1950s and after a break reintroduced in 1988. The name comes from their green colour. In the US, Green Stamps were widely used in the 1950s and 60s, but are less common now.

**Green-sleeves** /ˈɡrɪːnslɪːvz/ a favourite English song of the Elizabethan period well known in Britain and the US

**green stuff** /ˌɡrɪn ˈstʌf/ *n* [U] *AmE sl* money

**green-sward** /ˈɡrɪːnswɔːd/ *n* old use or lit a stretch of grassy land

**green tea** /ˌɡrɪn ˈtiː/ *n* [U] light-coloured tea which is made from leaves which have been heated with steam, not dried in the ordinary way

**green thumb** /ˌɡrɪn ˈθʌmb/ *n* [S] esp. *AmE* for GREEN FINGERS

**Green Wel-lie Bri-gade** /ˌɡrɪn ˈwelɪe ˈbrɪɡeɪd/ [the] *usu. derog* a name given to the richer classes of British society who enjoy country life esp. hunting, horseriding, etc. The name comes from the green WELLINGTONS (=rubber boots) which they often wear.

**green wel-lies** /ˌɡrɪn ˈwelɪeɪz/ *n* [P] *BrE* green WELLINGTONS (=rubber boots). They are associated esp. with rich, UPPER-CLASS people who enjoy life in the country.

**Green-wich** /ˈɡrɛnɪtʃ, ˈɡrɪnɪdʒ/ a BOROUGH in SE London, on the River Thames. The original British Royal Observatory (=a place from which scientists watched the stars) is there, and the 0° MERIDIAN (=an imaginary line dividing east from west) passes through the grounds of the Observatory.

**Green-wich Mean Time** /ˌɡrɪn ˈwiːtʃ miːn taɪm/ (abbrev. G.M.T.) *n* [U] the time at Greenwich in London. Times in the rest of the world are compared to this and said to be a number of hours earlier or later: *European time is usually one hour later than Greenwich Mean Time.*

**Greenwich Vil-lage** /ˌɡrɪn ˈwiːtʃ vɪləʒ/ an area of New York City, known for being the home of many artists, esp. those who are young and who do not want to live according to the accepted standards of society. It is also known as a fashionable place where many HOMOSEXUALS live. —see colour map on page 1376

**Greer** /ɡrɪə/, **Ger-maine** /dʒɜːˈmeɪn/ (1939– ) an Australian writer who had a big influence on the WOMEN'S MOVEMENT esp. through her book *The Female Eunuch*

**greet** /ɡriːt/ *v* [T] 1 to welcome with words or actions: *He greeted us by shouting a friendly "Hello!"* | *She greeted him with a loving kiss.* 2 [+obj+adv/prep] to receive with an expression of feeling: *The speech was greeted by loud cheers/in stony silence.* 3 to be suddenly seen or heard by: *As we entered the room complete disorder greeted us.* | *I woke up and was greeted by bird song.*

**greet-ing** /ˈɡriːtɪŋ/ *n* 1 a form of words or an action used when meeting someone: *"Good morning," I said, but she didn't return the/my greeting.* 2 [*usu. pl.*] a good wish: *We sent her a card with birthday/Christmas greetings.* | *a greetings telegram*

**gre-gar-i-ous** /ɡrɪˈɡeəriəs/ *adj* 1 (of a person) liking the companionship of others; not enjoying being alone; SOCIABLE 2 *tech* (of an animal or person) tending to live in a group — ~ *ly adv* — ~ *ness n* [U]

**Gre-go-ri-an cal-en-dar** /ɡrɪˈɡɔːriən ˈkælɪndə/ *n* [the] the system of arranging the 365 days of the SOLAR YEAR in days and months and numbering the years from the birth of Christ, which has been generally used in the West since 1582, when Pope Gregory XIII introduced it — compare HEGIRA CALENDAR

**Gregorian chant** /ˌɡrɛɡəriən ˈtʃænt/ *n* [C;U] a kind of church music for voices alone

**gremlin** /ˈɡremɪn/ *n infml* an imaginary wicked spirit that is believed to cause damage to engines and other machines or equipment: *There seems to be a gremlin in the computer.* (=it isn't working properly)

**Gre-na-da** /ɡrəˈneɪdə/ an island nation in the West Indies, made up of the main island of Grenada, the southern part of the Windward Islands, and various small islands called the **Grenadines**. In 1983, American soldiers attacked Grenada in order to return to power a former government that had been removed by force by some members of the army of Grenada. Many people around the world were opposed to this action by the US. — *~dian adj, n*

**gre-nade** /ɡrɪˈneɪd/ *n* a small bomb which can be thrown by hand or fired from a gun: *The hijackers managed to smuggle guns and hand grenades aboard the plane.*

**gren-a-dier** /ˌɡrenəˈdiə/ *n* a member of a famous REGIMENT (=large division of men) in the British army, the **Grenadiers** or **Grenadier Guards** (ˌɡrɪnəˈdiəz ˈɡɑːds)

**gren-a-dine** /ˌɡrenəˈdiːn, ˌɡrenəˈdiːn/ *n* [U] a sweet liquid made from POMEGRANATES and used in drinks

**Gren-fell** /ˈɡrenfəl/, **Joyce** (1910–75) a British entertainer who wrote and performed humorous songs and speeches in which she represented many different women, esp. English women. One of her most famous characters was a teacher of small children.

**Gret-na Green** /ˌɡrɛtnə ˈɡrɪːn/ a village in S Scotland on the border with England. Until 1940 people could get married there without following the usual English rules, and in the past young English people sometimes ran away to Gretna Green to get married, esp. if they wanted to get married without their parents' agreement.

**Gretz-ky** /ˈɡretski/, **Wayne** (1961– ) a Canadian ICE HOCKEY player

**grew** /ɡruː/ *past tense of GROW*

**grey** 1 *usu. gray AmE* /ɡreɪ/ *adj* 1 of the colour like black mixed with white; the colour of lead, ashes, and rain clouds: *grey clouds* | *an old lady with grey hair* | *a grey coat* 2 [F] having grey hair: *She's gone quite grey in the last few years.* 3 (of a person's face) of a pale colour because of sudden fear or illness: *His face turned grey as he heard the bad news.* 4 dull and without light; GLOOMY: (fig.) *Life seems grey and joyless.* — ~ *ness n* [U]

**grey** 2 *usu. gray AmE* — *n* [C;U] (a) grey colour: *She was dressed in grey.* | *dull greys and browns*

**grey** 3 *usu. gray AmE* — *v* [I] (esp. of hair) to become grey: *greying hair* | *He's greying at the temples.*

**Grey, Lady Jane** (1537–54) a woman who was queen of England for 9 days in 1553, before she was put in prison by Mary I, and later killed

**grey ar-e-a** /ˌɡrɪ ˈeɪə/ *n* an area of knowledge that is not clear or certain or not fully understood: *The legal status of the unborn child is still a grey area.*

**Grey Cup** /ˌɡrɪ ˈkʌp/ *n* [the] a prize given to the best Canadian FOOTBALL (2) team each year

**grey-hound** /ˈɡreɪhaʊnd/ *n* a type of thin dog with long thin legs that can run very fast in hunting and esp. racing — see picture at DOG

**Greyhound Bus** /ˌɡrɪ ˈhaʊnd bʌs/ *n tdmk* (in the US) one of the buses which travel *usu.* long distances, owned by a private national company. Greyhound buses travel all over the US, and many tourists use them because they are cheaper than hiring a car or flying. However, they often make very many stops in small towns along the way, so journeys can take a long time. — see picture at BUS

**greyhound rac-ing** /ˌɡrɪ ˈhaʊnd ˈræɪsɪŋ/ *n* [U] a popular sport in Britain in which greyhounds run around a track chasing a model HARE, driven by an electric motor. People risk their money on which dog will win the race. This sport is also found in the US, but is not as popular there as in Britain.

**grey-ish** *usu. grayish AmE* /ˈɡreɪ-ɪʃ/ *adj* slightly grey

**grey mat-ter** /ˌɡrɪ ˈmætər/ *n* [U] 1 the substance of the brain and nervous system which contains cell bodies, esp. the central part of the brain 2 *infml* brain power; the power of thought

**grid** /ɡrɪd/ *n* 1 a set of bars set across each other in a frame; GRATING 1: *a grid over a drain* — see also CATTLE GRID 2 *BrE* a network of electricity supply wires connecting power stations: *the national grid* 3 a system of numbered squares printed on a map so that the exact position of any place on it may be stated or found 4 a set of starting positions for all the cars in a motor race



**grid-dle** /'grɪdl/ *n* 1 an iron plate which was used esp. formerly for cooking things, such as flat cakes (**griddle cakes** /'.../), over a fire 2 *AmE* a flat, usu. round, plate used for cooking things, e.g. PANCAKES, on top of a COOKER

**grid-i-ron** /'grɪdaɪən||-ərn/ *n* 1 an open frame of metal bars for cooking meat or fish over a very hot fire 2 *AmE* a field marked in white lines for American football

**grief** /grɪf/ *n* [U] 1 great sorrow or feelings of suffering, esp. at the death of a loved person: *She went nearly mad with grief after the child died.* | *the grief-stricken relatives of the murdered man* 2 *come to grief* to fall or fail, causing harm or loss to oneself: *She cycled fast down the hill but came to grief when she went over a stone.* | *Their plans came to grief when the bank refused to lend them more money.* —see also **good grief** (GOOD<sup>1</sup> (22))

**Grieg** /grɪg/, **Ed-vard** /'edvɑ:d||-vɑ:rd/ (1843–1907) a Norwegian writer of music (COMPOSER) who is best known for the SUITE (3) *Peer Gynt*

**griev-ance** /'grɪvəns/ *n* a complaint or cause for complaint, esp. when one feels one has been unfairly treated: *She has a very real grievance against the hospital, since the operation which ruined her health.* | *A committee was set up to look into the workers' grievances.* | **Nursing a grievance** (=thinking about it continuously) *makes you bitter; it's better to try and remedy it.*

**grieve** /grɪv/ *v* 1 [I (for)] to suffer from grief or great sadness: *She is still grieving (for her dead husband).* 2 [T] *fml* to cause grief to; make very unhappy; DISTRESS: *It grieves me to see him wasting his youth.*

**griev-ous** /'grɪvəs/ *adj* [A] *fml* 1 very seriously harmful: *You have made a grievous mistake, which could affect the rest of your life.* 2 (of a wound, pain, etc.) severe: *a grievous wound* —~ly *adv* —~ness *n* [U]

**grievous bod-i-ly harm** /, , , ' / *n* [U] *BrE law* physical harm done to a person in an attack, for which the attacker may be charged in a court of law. These words are often shortened to GBH, the first letters only, in conversation: *He was in prison for three years for GBH.*

**grif-fin**, **griffon**, **gryphon** /'grɪfən/ *n* an imaginary animal in stories with a lion's body and the wings and head of an EAGLE (=a large bird)

griffin



**Grif-fith** /'grɪfɪθ/, **D W** (1875–1948) an American film maker known esp. for his use of new photographic methods, and for his film *Birth of a Nation*

**grift** /grɪft/ *v* [T] *AmE sl* to obtain (money, etc.) by deceiving someone **grifter** *n*

**grill**<sup>1</sup> /grɪl/ *v* 1 [I;T] *BrE* || **broil** *AmE*— to cook (something) under or over direct heat: *grilled sausages* | (fig.) *He's grilling (himself) out there in the midday sun.* —see **COOK** (USAGE) 2 [T] *infml* (esp. of the police) to question severely and continuously: *When the woman identified him as the criminal, he was grilled for two hours before the police accepted his alibi.*

**grill**<sup>2</sup> *n* 1 *BrE* || **broiler** *AmE*— an arrangement of a metal shelf under a gas flame or electric heat, used to cook food quickly: *Put the bread under the grill to make toast.* | *a grill pan* (=a part of the metal shelf, a container to catch fat etc.) —see **COOK** (USAGE) 2 a set of bars which can be put over a hot open fire, so that food can be cooked quickly: *Put the steaks on the grill.* —see also **MIXED GRILL**, and see picture at **KITCHEN**, and see picture at **PAN**

**grille** /grɪl/ *n* a frame of usu. upright metal bars filling a space in a door or window, such as one in a bank or post office separating a clerk from the customers, or one at the front of a car, where it protects the RADIATOR

**grilled cheese** /, ' / *n* *AmE* a SANDWICH of melted cheese between slices of bread that have been lightly fried

**grim** /grɪm/ *adj* -mm- 1 causing great fear or anxiety: *The judge's expression was grim as he told them they were to be hanged.* | *There's more grim news from the war zone; over a thousand of our men were killed today.* | *The staff now face the grim prospect of redundancy.* 2 determined in spite of fear or great difficulty: *a grim smile* 3 *infml* unpleasant; not cheerful: *I've had a grim day.* | *I had to spend the whole evening listening to Mr Watson's fishing*

*stories; it was pretty grim, I can tell you!* 4 *like grim death* *infml* with great determination, in spite of difficulty: *She hung on like grim death till the firemen arrived with their ladders.* —~ly *adv* —~ness *n* [U]

**gri-mace**<sup>1</sup> /grɪ'meɪs, 'grɪməs||'grɪməs, grɪ'meɪs/ *v* [I (at, with)] to make an expression of pain, annoyance, etc., which makes the face look unnaturally twisted: *She grimaced with pain.* | *The teacher grimaced as he looked at my work.*

**grimace**<sup>2</sup> *n* an unnatural twisting of the face, as in pain or annoyance: *a grimace of pain*

**grime** /graɪm/ *n* [U] a surface of thick black dirt: *His face and hands were covered with grime from the coal dust.*

**Grimm** /grɪm/, **Jacob** (1785–1863) a German who studied language and FOLKLORE. He is best known for the book he wrote with his brother Wilhelm, *Grimm's Fairy Tales*, a collection of nearly 200 stories, which are still popular with children in Britain and the US —see also **FAIRYTALE**

**Grim Reap-er** /, ' / [the] *esp. lit* (a name for death, considered as a person). The Grim Reaper is often thought of as a SKELETON in a CLOAK with a HOOD, carrying a SCYTHE to REAP (=gather) his crop (=the dead).

the Grim Reaper



**grim-y** /'grɪmi/ *adj* covered with dark-coloured dirt or grime —-iness *n* [U]

**grin**<sup>1</sup> /grɪn/ *v* -nn- [I (with, at)] 1 to make a wide smile: *They grinned with pleasure when I gave them the sweets.*

—see picture at **SMILE** 2 **grin and bear it** *infml* to suffer something unpleasant without complaint: *I hate having my wife's parents to stay, but I suppose I'll just have to grin and bear it.* —see also **grin like a Cheshire cat** (CHESHIRE CAT)

**grin**<sup>2</sup> *n* a wide smile which usu. shows the teeth: *She gave a cheeky grin.* | *He stood there with an embarrassed grin on his face.* | **Take/Wipe that grin off your face; this is a serious matter!** —see **SMILE** (USAGE)

**Grinch** /grɪntʃ/ *AmE* **How the Grinch Stole Christmas**, a children's story by Dr Seuss about a nasty, unkind, green creature called the Grinch who almost spoiled Christmas. Someone who is very bad-tempered may be called a Grinch.

**grind**<sup>1</sup> /graɪnd/ *v* **ground** /graʊnd/ 1 [T (UP)] to crush into small pieces or into powder by pressing between hard surfaces: *We grind (up) the wheat to make flour.* | *freshly-ground coffee* 2 [T] to rub (esp. the teeth) together so as to make a crushing noise: *Some people grind their teeth while they're asleep.* 3 [T] to make smooth or sharp by rubbing on a hard surface: *A man came to grind the knives and scissors.* | *The lenses for giant telescopes are very expensive to grind.* 4 [T+obj+adv/prep] to press down hard on (something) with a strong, twisting movement: *In anger, he ground his knee into the man's stomach, and hit him in the face.* | *The dirt was deeply ground into the carpet.* 5 [I+adv/prep] *infml, esp. AmE*, now rare to study hard, esp. for an examination; **SWOT**<sup>2</sup>: *They're grinding away for their exam/grinding away at their French.* 6 **grind the faces of the poor** to make poor people work very hard and give them almost nothing in return 7 **grind to a halt** to come slowly and/or noisily to a stop —see also **have an axe to grind** (AXE<sup>1</sup>)

**grind sbdy.** ↔ **down** *phr v* [T] to keep in a state of suffering and hopelessness; OPPRESS: *Most of the people were ground down by hunger and poverty.*

**grind sthg.** ↔ **out** *phr v* [T] *derog* to produce (esp. writing or music) continuously, but like a machine: *She grinds out romantic stories for the women's magazines.* | *The juke box ground out its monotonous tunes.*

**grind**<sup>2</sup> *n* *infml* 1 [S] hard uninteresting work: *I find any kind of study a real grind.* | *the daily grind of the housework* 2 [S] a long steady tiring effort of movement, such as a difficult race: *It was a terrible grind getting up that long hill.* 3 [C] *AmE*, often *derog* a student who is always working; **SWOT**<sup>1</sup>

**grind-er** /'graɪndə/ *n* a machine or person that grinds: *a coffee grinder* | *a knife grinder* —see also **ORGAN GRINDER**



**grind-stone** /'graɪndstəʊn/ *n* 1 a round stone which is turned and rubs against tools, knives, etc. to sharpen them. Formerly people had their knives sharpened by a man with a grindstone who would visit their area regularly. 2 **one's nose to the grindstone** *infml* in a state of continuous hard work: *He's got to keep his nose to the grindstone to feed his six children.*

**grin-go** /'grɪŋgəʊ/ *n-s usu. derog* a N American or English-speaking foreigner in Latin America, esp. in Mexico

**grip**<sup>1</sup> /grɪp/ *v -pp-* 1 [I;T] to take a very tight hold (of): *She gripped my hand in fear. | car tyres that grip the road well* 2 [T] to take hold of the attention or feelings of: *The pictures gripped my imagination. | The whole country was gripped by panic.* —see CLASP (USAGE); see also GRIPPING

**grip**<sup>2</sup> *n* 1 [C *usu. sing.*] a very tight forceful hold: *The thief would not let go his grip on my handbag. | (fig.) The president keeps a firm grip on his country's foreign policy. (=keeps it under his control) | (fig.) The country is in the grip of severe winter storms.* 2 [S] understanding, control, or skill in a subject or activity: *I played badly today; I seem to be losing my grip.* 3 [C] a special way of holding: *To improve your golf/tennis strokes you try using a different grip.* 4 [C] a (part of a) handle suitable to be gripped: *She has a leather grip on her tennis racket.* b a part of an apparatus which grips —see also HAIRGRIP 5 [C] a bag or case for a traveller's personal belongings 6 [C] a person whose job is to move the cameras around in the making of a film or television show 7 **come/get to grips with** to deal seriously with (something difficult): *The speaker talked a lot, but never really got to grips with the subject.* 8 **get/keep a grip on oneself** to (start to) act in a (more) sensible, calm, and controlled manner

**gripe**<sup>1</sup> /graɪp/ *v* [I (at, about)] *infml* to **complain** continually and annoyingly: *He's griping about his income tax again.* —**griper** *n*

**gripe**<sup>2</sup> *n infml* a complaint: *My main gripe is, there's no hot water.*

**gripe**<sup>3</sup> *v* [I] to cause or feel sharp pain, esp. in the stomach: *a griping pain*

**gripes** /graɪps/ *n* [the+P] *old-fash infml* sudden and severe stomach pains: *He's got the gripes.*

**gripe water** /'grɪp.wɔːtə/ *n* a liquid given to babies when they have stomach pains

**grip-ping** /'grɪpɪŋ/ *adj* holding the attention; very interesting and exciting: *a gripping film* —see also GRIP<sup>1</sup> (2) —**ly** *adv*

**gris-ly** /'grɪzli/ *adj* extremely unpleasant because of death, decay, or destruction which is shown or described: *the grisly remains of the bodies | a grisly story about people who ate human flesh* —compare GRUESOME

**grist** /grɪst/ *n* (all) **grist to one's/the mill** something that can be used for one's advantage or profit: *As a writer, even life's problems are all grist to his mill.*

**gris-tle** /'grɪsəl/ *n* [U] the part of meat which is not soft enough to eat, found near the bones; CARTILAGE in cooked meat —**tly** *adj*

**grit**<sup>1</sup> /grɪt/ *n* [U] 1 small pieces of a hard substance, usu. stone: *Grit is spread on roads to make them less slippery in icy weather. | I've got a piece of grit in my eye.* 2 *infml* determination; strength and courage during difficulty: *It takes a lot of grit to overcome a physical handicap.* —**gritty** *adj*: a gritty surface | gritty determination

**grit**<sup>2</sup> *v -tt-* [T] 1 to put grit on (esp. a road) 2 **grit one's teeth** to become determined when in a position of difficulty: *The snow was blowing in his face, but he gritted his teeth and went on.*

**grit-ter** /'grɪtə/ also **gritting lor-ry** /'grɪtɪŋ.lɒr.ri/ *n* *AmE* — *n BrE* a LORRY with equipment for spreading grit and usu. salt on roads which are icy or likely to become icy: *I bet there'll be lots of ice on the minor roads where the gritters haven't been.*

**grits** /grɪts/ *n* [U+*sing./pl. v*] *AmE* HOMINY grain which is roughly crushed, or uncrushed but with the outer skin removed, often eaten for breakfast in the southern states of the US —compare HOMINY

**griz-zle** /'grɪzəl/ *v* [I] *BrE infml derog* 1 (esp. of a young child) to cry quietly and continually as though tired or worried 2 to complain in a self-pitying way

**griz-zled** /'grɪzəld/ *adj* [A] *esp. lit* having grey or greyish hair

**griz-zly bear** /'grɪzli.beə/ also **grizzly** — *n* a very large brownish-grey bear of the Rocky Mountains of N America —see picture at BEAR

**groan**<sup>1</sup> /grəʊn/ *v* [I] to make a groan: *The old man who had been in the accident lay groaning beside the road. | (fig.) The table groaned with food. (=there was lots of food on it) | He's always moaning and groaning (=complaining) about something.*

**groan**<sup>2</sup> *n* a sound of suffering, worry, complaint, or disapproval, which is made in a deep voice: *There were loud groans from the boys when the girls started to win. | groans of disappointment/despair/pain | (fig.) The old chair gave a groan when the fat woman sat down on it.*

**groat** /grəʊt/ *n* a former British coin of low value

**groats** /grəʊts/ *n* [P] grain, esp. OATS, from which the outer shell has been removed, and which may also have been broken into pieces

**gro-bag**, **growbag** /'grəʊbæg/ *n* a large plastic bag containing specially prepared earth for growing vegetables, e.g. tomatoes

**gro-cer** /'grəʊsə/ *n* a person who owns or works in a shop (grocer's) which sells dry and preserved foods, like flour, coffee, sugar, rice, and other things for the home, such as matches and soap: *I bought some flour at the grocer's (shop).* —compare GREENGROCER

**gro-cer-ies** /'grəʊsəriz/ *n* [P] the goods sold by a grocer or a SUPERMARKET: *She put the box of groceries in the car.*

**gro-cer-y** /'grəʊsəri/ *n* 1 [C] also **grocery store** /'grəʊsəri.stɔː/ *AmE* —the shop of a grocer: *The nearest grocery is in Smith St.* 2 [U] the trade of a grocer: *a grocery business*

**gro-dy** /'grəʊdi/ *adj* *AmE sl* very unpleasant or offensive

**grog** /grɒg/ *n* [U] 1 a mixture of strong drink (esp. RUM) and water, esp. as drunk by sailors 2 *infml, esp. AustrE* any alcoholic drink

**grog-gy** /'grɒgi/ *adj infml* weak because of illness, shock, tiredness, etc., and often unable to walk steadily: *I felt a bit groggy after 15 hours on the plane.* —**gily** *adv*

**groin** /grɔɪn/ *n* 1 a the hollow place where the tops of the legs meet the front of the body b *euph* the male sex organs: *a kick in the groin* 2 a GROYN

**Gro-my-ko** /grə'mɪ:kəʊ/, **An-drei** /'ɑːndreɪ/ (1908–89) a Soviet politician and head of state (1985–88), best remembered as foreign minister, a position he held for 28 years from 1957

**groom**<sup>1</sup> /gruːm, grʊm/ *n* 1 someone who is in charge of feeding, cleaning, and taking care of horses 2 a BRIDEGROOM

**groom**<sup>2</sup> *v* 1 [T] to take care of (horses), esp. by rubbing, brushing, and cleaning them 2 [T] to take care of the appearance of (oneself), by dressing neatly, keeping the hair tidy, etc.: *He always looks very well-groomed.* 3 [I;T] (of an animal) to clean the fur and skin of (itself or another animal): *Monkeys groom each other.* 4 [T (for)] to prepare (someone) for a special position or occasion: *They were grooming her for stardom. (=to play big parts in plays or films) [+to-v] She's being groomed to take over the chairman's job when he retires.*

**groove** /gruːv/ *n* 1 a long narrow usu. regular path or track made in a surface, esp. to guide the movement of something: *The needle is stuck in the groove of the record, so it keeps repeating the same bit of music. | The door fits into this metal groove and slides shut.* 2 a track made by repeated movement; RUT: (fig.) *My parents don't like change; they're happy to stay in the same old groove.*

**grooved** /gruːvd/ *adj* having grooves

**groov-y** /'gruːvi/ *adj* *old-fash sl* attractive or interesting; fashionably modern. This word is connected esp. with the 1960s, when it was a very popular, fashionable word.

**grope**<sup>1</sup> /grəʊp/ *v* 1 [I+*adv/prep*, esp. for] to try to find something by feeling with the hands in a place one cannot see (properly): *He groped (about) in his pocket for his ticket. | (fig.) She groped for the right word. | (fig.) The two sides are groping towards an agreement.* 2 [T+*obj+adv/prep*] to make (one's way) by feeling with outstretched hands (as if) in the dark: *I groped my way to a seat in the dark cinema.* 3 [T] *derog sl* to (try to) feel



over the body of (a person, usu. a woman) so as to get sexual pleasure

**grope**<sup>2</sup> *n* an act of groping

**gross**<sup>1</sup> /grəʊs/ *adj* 1 [A no comp.] total: *my gross income, before taxes are deducted* | *The gross weight of the box of chocolates is more than the weight of the chocolates alone.* —compare NET<sup>3</sup> 2 [A] *fml* clearly wrong; inexcusable: *The court found the doctor guilty of gross negligence.* | *It was an act of the grossest insolence.* | *gross inequalities* 3 (esp. of people's speech and habits) rough, impolite, and offensive; COARSE: *She was shocked by his gross behaviour at the party.* 4 unpleasantly fat: *He's become really gross in old age.* 5 *infml*, esp. AmE very unpleasant or offensive — *~ly adv* — *~ness n* [U]

**gross**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T] to gain as total profit or earn as a total amount: *The film grossed over \$15 million.*

**gross**<sup>3</sup> *determiner, n* gross or grosses a group of 144; 12 DOZEN: *The shopkeeper ordered ten gross of candles.*

**gross domestic product** /,ˌɡrɒs ˈprɒdʊkt/ *n* the total value of all the goods and services produced in a country, usu. in a single year, except for income received from abroad. It is also known as GDP.

**gross margin** /,ˌɡrɒs ˈmɑːrɪn/ also **gross profit**— *n* the difference between what something costs to be produced and what it is sold for

**gross national product** /,ˌɡrɒs ˈnæʃənəl ˈprɒdʊkt/ *n* the total value of all the goods and services produced in a country, usu. in a single year. Also known as GNP, it is seen as a measure of a country's economic performance.

**gross profit** /,ˌɡrɒs ˈprɒfɪt/ *n* see GROSS MARGIN

**gross receipts** /,ˌɡrɒs ˈriːptɪz/ *n* [P] the total amount of money received before any costs are taken off

**grotesque**<sup>1</sup> /grəʊˈtesk/ *adj* strange and unnatural so as to cause fear, disbelief, or amusement; OUTLANDISH: *grotesque paintings of two-headed animals with fangs and staring eyes* | *The fat old man looked grotesque in his tight trousers.* | *Her account of the incident was a grotesque distortion of the truth.* — *~ly adv* — *~ness n* [U]

**grotesque**<sup>2</sup> *n* [C; the+S] (a picture or object showing) grotesque qualities: *Hieronymus Bosch was a master of the grotesque in painting.*

**grotto** /'grɒtəʊ/ *n* -toes or -tos 1 a natural CAVE, esp. of LIMESTONE, or a man-made one set in a garden and often decorated with shells 2 a small place for religious worship in the shape of a CAVE

**grotty** /'grɒti/ *adj* BrE *infml* bad, nasty, unpleasant, etc.: *She lives in a grotty little room with nowhere to cook.* — *~tiness n* [U]

**grouch**<sup>1</sup> /graʊtʃ/ *n infml* 1 [usu. sing.] a bad-tempered complaint: *She's always got a grouch about something; if it's not the weather, it's the cost of living.* 2 a person who keeps complaining: *Quit being a grouch!* — **grouchy** *adj* — *~iness n* [U]

**grouch**<sup>2</sup> *v* [I] *infml* to complain in a bad-tempered way; GRUMBLE

**ground**<sup>1</sup> /graʊnd/ *n* 1 [(the) U] the surface of the earth: *The branch broke and fell to the ground.* | *The injured man was lying on the ground.* | *high ground* | *They built a bomb shelter below ground.* | *Moles seldom come above ground.* —compare FLOOR<sup>1</sup> (1); see also UNDERGROUND 2 [U] soil; earth: *The ground is dry/frozen.* —see LAND (USAGE) 3 [C] (usu. in comb.) a piece of land used for a particular purpose: *soldiers marching on a parade ground* | *a football ground* —see also PLAYGROUND 4 [U] the bottom of the sea or the shore: *Our ship touched ground.* 5 [C] a the colour on which a pattern is placed; background: *The curtains have white flowers on a blue ground.* b the first covering of paint on a painting 6 [U] a an area of knowledge, study, or experience: *It was absurd to try to cover so much ground (=talk about so much) in such a short lecture.* | *The book says nothing new — it just goes over the same old ground.* | *I'm on fairly familiar ground here because I've had a lot of experience with computers.* b a base for argument: *You'll be on safe ground as long as you avoid the subject of politics.* | *You're on dangerous ground if you mention pop music to him — he hates it!* | *Just when I thought I had won the argument she shifted her ground and put forward a whole new set of objections.* 7 [U] a position of advantage to be won or defended: *The army lost ground/was forced to give ground*

*when the enemy started its new offensive.* | *This big contract will help us to gain ground on (=get closer to in success) our competitors.* | *The president has lost a lot of ground in the popularity polls.* | *The idea of equal pay for women is gaining ground.* (=gradually becoming accepted) 8 [C] esp. AmE for EARTH<sup>1</sup> (4) 9 into the ground beyond what is sensible or necessary, esp. so as to be very tired: *Don't work so hard; you're driving yourself into the ground.* 10 off the ground successfully started: *Lack of money meant we couldn't even get the plan off the ground/the plan didn't even get off the ground.* 11 on the ground at the actual place where something, esp. a war, is happening, rather than in another place where the situation is being watched or discussed: *While the politicians discussed possible peace plans, the situation on the ground was tense.* | *We turn now to our reporter on the ground for an up-to-the-minute run-down of events.* 12 to ground BrE into hiding to escape: *The criminals went to ground in a deserted old farm house.* —see also GROUNDS, break new ground (BREAK<sup>1</sup>), cut the ground from under someone's feet (CUT<sup>1</sup> (32)), have/keep one's ear to the ground (EAR<sup>1</sup>), have/keep both one's feet on the ground (FOOT<sup>1</sup> (11)), stand one's ground (STAND<sup>1</sup> (25)), suit someone down to the ground (SUIT<sup>2</sup>)

**ground**<sup>2</sup> *v* 1 [I;T] to strike or cause (a boat) to strike against the bottom of the sea, a river, etc.: *The ship grounded on a hidden sandbank.* | *He grounded his ship in two metres of water.* 2 [T] a to prevent (a plane or pilot) from flying: *All aircraft have been grounded because of thick fog.* | *He's been grounded for dangerous flying.* b AmE *infml* to prevent (a child) from going out as a punishment: *My father grounded me for coming in late.* 3 [T+obj+adv/prep, esp. on, in] to base: *Our development plans are grounded on the results of our market research.* | *Our fears proved to be well grounded.* 4 [T] esp. AmE for EARTH<sup>2</sup>

**ground** sbdy. in sthg. *phr v* [T usu. pass.] to teach the main points or rules of (a subject) as a base for further study: *Our English teacher made sure that we were well grounded in basic grammar.* —see also GROUNDING

**ground**<sup>3</sup> *past tense & participle of GRIND*: *freshly ground coffee*

**ground bait** /'graʊnd baɪt/ *n* [U] food which is thrown onto a river, lake, etc., to attract fish to the place where one is fishing

**ground ball** /'graʊnd bɔːl/ also **ground-er** /'graʊndəː/ *n* (in BASEBALL) a ball which travels along the ground after being hit —compare FLY BALL

**ground beef** /'graʊnd biːf/ *n* [U] AmE BEEF that has been cut very finely, often used to make HAMBURGERS

**ground cloth** /'graʊnd klɒθ/ *n* AmE for GROUND SHEET

**ground cover** /'graʊnd ˈkʌvə/ *n* [U] plants that cover the ground, in a forest or in a place where they have been planted specifically for that purpose: *We need some ground cover for that corner of the garden.*

**ground crew** /'graʊnd kriː/ also **ground staff** BrE— *n* [C+sing./pl. v] the team of people at an airport who do not fly aircraft but take care of them between flights

**ground floor** /'graʊnd flɔː/ *n* 1 the part of a building at or near ground level: *My office is on the ground floor.* —compare FIRST FLOOR (2); see FLOOR (USAGE) 2 get/be in on the ground floor to be part of an activity, business operation, etc. from the time it starts

**ground forces** /'graʊnd ˈfɔːsɪz/ *n* [P] the part of the armed forces that fights on the ground, not in the air or at sea

**ground glass** /'graʊnd glɑːs/ *n* [U] 1 glass which has had the surface partly rubbed away so that it can spread the light which passes through it 2 glass in powder form

**groundhog** /'graʊndhɒg/ -hɑːg, -hɔːg/ also **woodchuck**, **marmot**— *n* a small N American animal of the MARMOT family, that has thick, brown fur and lives in holes in the ground

**Groundhog Day** /'graʊndhɒg ˈdeɪ/ *n* (in the US) 2nd February. On this day, according to old stories, the groundhog comes out of its hole for the first time since winter began. If it sees its shadow, it is frightened back into its hole and there will be six more weeks of winter, but if it is cloudy and the groundhog cannot see its shadow, there will be an early spring.

**ground-ing** /'graʊndɪŋ/ *n* [S (in)] a complete training in the main points of a subject: *All our students receive a good grounding in English grammar.*



**ground-less** /'graundləs/ *adj* (of feelings, ideas, etc.) without base or good reason: *Fortunately my fears/suspicions proved groundless.* — *~ly adv* — *~ness n* [U]

**ground-ling** /'graundlɪŋ/ *n* a person of low position in relation to others, esp. in former times one watching a performance from the cheapest part of the theatre

**ground-nut** /'graundnʌt/ *n* *esp. tech* a PEANUT or peanut plant

**Groundnut Scheme** /'grʌndnʌt/ *n* *BrE* an expensive plan which fails because of lack of thought

**ground plan** /'grʌndplæn/ *n* **1** a drawn plan of a building at ground level **2** a general plan of arrangements for a particular piece of work

**ground rent** /'grʌndrent/ *n* [C;U] rent paid during a certain time (in England usu. 99 years) to the owner of land (FREEHOLDER) by a person whose house is built on this land

**ground rule** /'grʌndruːl/ *n* [often *pl.*] a rule used as a base for deciding how to deal with something: *One of the ground rules of social behaviour is to avoid offending people.*

**grounds** /graundz/ *n* [P] **1** [(for)] a reason; the facts or conditions that provide a base for an action or feeling: *We have good grounds for thinking that he stole the money.* | *He left on (the) grounds of ill-health/on the grounds that he was ill.* | *She refused on moral grounds.* **2** land surrounding a large building, such as a country house or hospital, usu. made into gardens and enclosed by a wall or fence **3** a large area used for the stated purpose: *fish-ing grounds* | *hunting grounds* **4** small bits of solid matter which sink to the bottom of a liquid, esp. coffee: *coffee grounds*

**ground-sheet** /'graundʃi:t/ *BrE* || **groundcloth** *AmE* — *n* a sheet of WATERPROOF material (=through which water cannot pass), used by someone sleeping outdoors or put under a tent

**grounds-man** /'graundzmən/ *n* -men /mən/ *esp. BrE* a man employed to take care of a sports field or large gardens

**ground squir-rel** /'grʌndskwɪrəl/ *n* one of several types of N American RODENT that often damage crops

**ground staff** /'grʌndstɑːf/ *n* [C+*sing./pl. v*] *BrE* **1** a team of people employed at a sports ground to look after the grass, the sports equipment, etc. **2** GROUND CREW

**ground stroke** /'grʌndstroʊk/ *n* a stroke made in tennis and similar games by hitting the ball after it has hit the ground

**ground-swell** /'graundswel/ *n* **1** [S (of)] a sudden and quickly-developing growth of a feeling among large numbers of people: *There is a groundswell of public opinion in favour of letting these refugees enter the country.* **2** [S;U] the strong movement of the sea which continues after a storm or strong winds

**ground-water** /'graundwɔːtə/ || -wɔː- / *n* [U] water that can be found under the earth by digging wells

**ground-work** /'graundwɜːk/ || -wɜːrk/ *n* [U] the work which forms the base for some kind of study, skill, or activity: *These preliminary talks laid the groundwork for the meeting between the two leaders.*

**group**<sup>1</sup> /gruːp/ *n* [C+*sing./pl. v*] **1** [(of)] a number of people, things, or organizations placed together or connected in a particular way: *A group of tall trees stands on top of the hill.* | *A group of us are going up to London for the day.* | *a photo of a family group* | *"Which blood group do you belong to?" "Group A."* | *a small group of congress-men campaigning for tougher anti-pollution laws* | *English belongs to the Germanic group of languages.* | *the Longman Group of companies* —see also AGE GROUP **2** a small number of players of popular music, sometimes with a singer: *The Beatles were the best-known pop group of the 1960s.*

**group**<sup>2</sup> *v* [I+*adv./prep*; T] to form into one or more groups: *The children grouped round the piano.* | *We can group animals into several types.* | *Let's group all the history books together.*

**group cap-tain** /'gruːptɪn/ *n* an officer in the British airforce —see TABLE 3

**group-ie** /'gruːpi/ *n* *infml*, sometimes *derog* a person, esp. a young girl, who follows pop groups (POP) to their concerts, hoping to meet and perhaps have sex with the players: (fig.) *a tennis groupie*

**group-ing** /'gruːpɪŋ/ *n* an arrangement of people or things into a group: *The new grouping of classes means that there are larger numbers in each class.*

**Group of Sev-en** /'gruːp ɒv 'sevən/ also **G7** — [*the*] the seven most important industrial nations in the world: Canada, France, Germany, Great Britain, Italy, Japan, and the US

**group prac-tice** /'gruːp 'præktɪs/ *n* [C;U] a working partnership among a number of doctors

**Group Thea-tre** /'gruːp 'θiːə/ [*the*] a group of actors and DIRECTORS in the US who wanted to produce plays with political meaning. It began in 1931 and stopped producing plays in 1940, but many of the people in the group were very important in the American theatre. —see also ELIA KAZAN, Lee STRASBERG

**group ther-a-py** /'gruːp 'θerəpi/ *n* [U] a way of treating disorders of the mind by bringing sufferers together to talk about their difficulties, usu. with a doctor or specially trained leader

**grouse**<sup>1</sup> /grəʊs/ *n* **grouse** a smallish fat bird which is shot for food and sport. In Britain, grouse shooting begins every year on August 12th (known as the "Glorious Twelfth") and ends on December 10th. It is popular esp. with the ARISTOCRACY and richer classes of British society.

**grouse**<sup>2</sup> *v* [I (about)] *infml* to complain; GRUMBLE

**grouse**<sup>3</sup> *n* *infml* a complaint; GRUMBLE —compare GROUCH

**grove** /grəʊv/ *n* **1** *esp. lit* a small group of trees **2** an area planted with certain types of trees, esp. CITRUS fruit trees: *an orange grove* | *olive groves on the hillside* —compare ORCHARD **3** (*usu. cap. as part of a name*) a road with trees along the sides: *Lisson Grove*

**grovel** /'grɒvəl/ || 'græ- / *v* -ll- *BrE* || -l- *AmE* [I (to)] *derog* **1** to show extreme respect and willingness to obey someone in a position of power, in the hope of gaining their favour: *I had to grovel to my boss before she would agree to let me go on holiday.* **2** to lie or move flat on the ground, esp. in fear of or obedience to someone powerful: *When he shouted at the dog it grovelled at his feet.* —*~ler n*

**grow** /grəʊ/ *v* **grew** /gruː/ , **grown** /grəʊn/ **1** [I] (of a living thing) to increase in size by natural development: *Grass grows after rain.* | *He's grown six inches (taller).* | *A lamb grows into a sheep.* | *She doesn't like her hair short, so she's letting it grow.* | *Growing children need lots of food.* **2** [I+*adv./prep*] (of a plant) to exist and be able to develop, esp. after planting: *Cotton grows wild here.* | *Oranges grow in Spain.* **3** [T] to cause or allow (esp. plants and crops) to grow: *We grow vegetables in our garden.* | *Plants grow roots.* | *Snakes can grow a new skin.* | *Cattle often grow horns.* | *He's grown a beard.* | *She's grown her hair long.* **4** [I] to increase in amount, size, or degree: *The company has grown rapidly in the last five years.* | *Fears are growing for the climbers' safety.* | *A growing number of people are taking part-time jobs.* | *the world's fastest-growing hotel company* **5** [L+*adj*] *esp. fml or lit* to become (gradually): *She's growing fat.* | *The noise grew louder.* | *It's growing dark.* | *The sound of the music grew faint as the band marched away.* **6** to begin gradually: [I+*to-v*] *In time you will grow to like him.* (=as you learn to know him you will like him) **7** **grow on trees** [*usu. in negatives*] *infml* to be very common or easy to get: *Money doesn't grow on trees, you know.*

**grow away from** sbdy. *phr v* [T *no pass.*] to begin gradually to have a less close relationship with (esp. one's parents, husband, or wife)

**grow into** sbdy./sthg. *phr v* [T *no pass.*] **1** to become as a result of growing: *He's grown into a fine young man.* **2** to become big enough for (clothes, shoes, etc.) by growing: *The coat is too long now, but she'll grow into it.* —compare GROW out of (1) **3** to become used to (work and activities): *You need time to grow into the job.*

**grow on** sbdy. *phr v* [T *no pass.*] to become gradually more pleasing or more of a habit to: *His music is difficult to listen to, but after a while it starts to grow on you.*

**grow out of** sthg. *phr v* [T] **1** to become too big for (clothes, shoes, etc.) by growing: *My daughter has grown out of all her old clothes.* —compare GROW into (2) **2** to lose (a childish or youthful weakness) as one becomes older: *to grow out of a bad habit* [+*v-ing*] *He'll soon grow out of wetting the bed.*

**grow up** *phr v* [I] **1** (of a person) to develop from being a child to being a man or woman: *What do you want to be when you grow up/are grown up?* | *I wish you'd grow up!* (=stop behaving childishly) **2** to become established; develop: *The custom grew up of dividing the*



*father's land between the sons.* —see also GROWN-UP

**grow-bag** /'grəʊbæg/ *n* GROBAG

**grow-er** /'grəʊə/ *n* 1 a person who grows something for sale: *apple growers* | *wine growers* (=who grow GRAPES to make wine) 2 a plant which grows in the stated way: *This rose is a slow grower.*

**growing pains** /'.../ *n* [P] 1 aches and pains in the limbs of children who are growing up, commonly believed to be the result of growing too fast 2 difficulties that are experienced at the beginning of a new activity but will probably not last: *I hear Clive's business is having a few growing pains.*

**growl** /graʊl/ *v* [I (at)] (esp. of animals) to make a deep rough sound in the throat to show anger or give warning: *Our dog always growls at strangers.* | *Dad's in a bad mood and he's growling at everyone today.* —**growl** *n*: *He answered with a growl of anger.* —**growler** *n*

**Grow-more** /'grəʊmɔː/ *n* [U] *tdmk* a substance that is put on the garden to make crops grow better

**grown** /grəʊn/ *adj* [A] (of a person) of full size or development; adult: *A grown man like you shouldn't behave like that.* —see also FULL-GROWN, INGROWING

**grown-up** /'.../ *adj* fully developed; no longer being or like a child: *She has a grown-up daughter who lives abroad.* | *I'd expect more grown-up behaviour of you.*

**grown-up** /'.../ *n* *infml* a fully grown person; adult. Most adults use the word "adult" except when talking to children, who usu. talk about "grown-ups": *Go to bed now and let the grown-ups have a little time to themselves.* —see also GROW UP

**growth** /grəʊθ/ *n* 1 [U] the process or rate of growing and developing: *Trees take many years to reach their full growth.* | *The report condemns the slowness of the growth of world literacy.* | *vitamins that are essential for healthy growth* 2 [S;U (in)] increase in size, amount, or degree: *There has been a sudden growth/a 50% growth in the market for home computers.* | *a high rate of population growth* | *a period of rapid economic growth* 3 [C] something which has grown: *Nails are thin horny growths at the ends of the fingers.* 4 [C] a lump produced by an unnatural and often unhealthy increase in the number of cells in a part of the body: *The surgeons removed a growth from the patient's neck.* —compare TUMOUR

**growth in-dus-try** /'.../ *n* an industry which grows faster than other industries under the same conditions

**groynes**, **groin** /grɔɪn/ *n* a low wall built out from the shore into the sea, to prevent the sea from washing away (parts of) the shore

**grub** /grʌb/ *n* 1 [C] an insect in the soft thick wormlike form it has after coming out of its egg 2 [U] *infml* food: *Grub's up!* (=the meal is ready)

**grub** *v* -bb- 1 [I+adv/prep] to turn over the soil, esp. by digging with the hands or PAWS: *The dog was grubbing (about) under the bush, looking for a bone.* 2 [T+obj+adv, esp. UP, OUT] to dig up by the roots

**grub-by** /'grʌbi/ *adj* *infml* rather dirty: *grubby hands* | *That white shirt's looking rather grubby.*

**grub-stake** /'grʌb,steɪk/ *n* *infml*, esp. *AmE* money provided to develop a new business in return for a share of the profits

**grudge** /grʌdʒ/ *v* [T] to give or allow (something) unwillingly; BEGRUDGE: [+v-ing] *He grudged paying so much for such bad food.* [+obj(i)+obj(d)] *I don't grudge you your success.*

**grudge** *n* [(against)] (something that causes) a deep feeling of dislike for another person, esp. based on a belief that they have harmed one in some way: *I always feel she has a grudge against me, although I don't know what wrong I've done her.* | *I'm not one to bear a grudge/grudges.* (=continue to feel angry about someone's past actions) | *This big boxing match is billed as a grudge fight.* (=because the fighters dislike each other)

**grudg-ing** /'grʌdʒɪŋ/ *adj* unwilling or showing unwillingness: *She was very grudging in her thanks/praise.* | *his grudging acceptance of our decision* —~ly *adv*: *He gave his permission grudgingly.*

**gru-el** /'gruːəl/ *n* [U] a thin liquid food given in the past to a person who was ill, made by boiling crushed OATS (=a

type of grain) in milk or water. Formerly it was often the only food a poor person could afford or would be given if they lived in the WORKHOUSE (=former state building for the homeless and unemployed)

**gru-el-ling** *BrE* || **grueling** *AmE* /'gruːəlɪŋ/ *adj* very hard and tiring; demanding great effort and determination: *All the runners were exhausted after the gruelling race.* —~ly *adv*

**grue-some** /'gruːsəm/ *adj* (esp. of something connected with death or suffering) very shocking and sickening: *a gruesome report about torture in a prison camp* —compare GRISLY, MACABRE —~ly *adv* —~ness *n* [U]

**gruff** /grʌf/ *adj* 1 (of a person's voice) deep and rough, sometimes because bad-tempered 2 (of a person's behaviour) unfriendly or impatient, esp. in one's manner of speaking: *a gruff manner/reply* —~ly *adv* —~ness *n* [U]

**grum-ble** /'grʌmbəl/ *v* [I] 1 to express discontent or dissatisfaction; complain in a quiet but bad-tempered way: *They were all grumbling about the company's refusal to increase their pay.* | (*BrE infml*) "How are you today?" "Mustn't grumble." (=I'm fairly well) 2 to make a low dull sound; RUMBLE: *Thunder grumbled in the distance.* —bler *n*

**grumble** *n* 1 [C] a complaint or expression of dissatisfaction: *Take your grumbles to the boss, not to me.* 2 [(the) S] a low, esp. continuing, noise; RUMBLE: *the distant grumble of the guns*

**grum-bling** /'grʌmblɪŋ/ *adj* *not tech* (of the human APPENDIX) causing pain or discomfort from time to time

**grumpy** /'grʌmpi/ *adj* *infml* bad-tempered and tending to complain: *She's very grumpy when her tooth aches.* —ily *adv* —iness *n* [U]

**grun-gy** /'grʌndʒi/ *adj* *AmE sl* dirty and perhaps bad-smelling, in a way that offends: *grungy blue jeans*

**grunt** /grʌnt/ *v* 1 [I] (esp. of a pig) to make short deep rough sounds in the throat, as if the nose were closed 2 [I;T] (of a human being) to make a sound like this or express with such a sound, esp. when dissatisfied or unwilling to talk: *When I asked her if she wanted some tea, she just grunted.* | *He grunted his agreement without looking up from his newspaper.*

**grunt** *n* a short deep rough sound (like that) of a pig: *He gave a grunt of approval.*

**Gru-yère** /'gruːjeə/ || *gruː'jeər* *n* [U] a sort of hard cheese with holes in it, from Switzerland

**gryph-on** /'grɪfən/ *n* a GRIFFIN

**g-spot** /'dʒiː spɒt || -spɑːt/ *n* *taboo*, *sl* a centre of sexual sensation inside a woman's VAGINA

**Gstaad** /gə'stɑːd/ a town in Switzerland, famous as a place where esp. rich people go skiing (SKI<sup>2</sup>)

**G-string** /'dʒiː strɪŋ/ *n* a very small piece of cloth, leather, etc., worn on the lower part of the body esp. by STRIP-TEASE dancers

**GTI** /'dʒiː tiː 'aɪ/ *adj* (of motor cars) grand tourer injection; having a special FUEL system which means the car can go at high speeds —compare FUEL INJECTION

**gua-ca-mo-le** /'gwɑːkə'məʊli/ *n* [U] *Sp* a dish made of crushed AVOCADO flesh

**Guang-zhou** /'gwɑːŋ'dʒəʊ/ the modern name for Canton, China

**gua-no** /'gwɑːnəʊ/ *n* [U] the waste matter passed from the stomachs of seabirds, which is used to feed soil where plants are grown

**guar-an-tee** /'gærən'tiː/ *n* [(of)] 1 a formal declaration that something will be done, esp. a written agreement by the maker of an article to repair or replace it if it is found to be imperfect within a certain period of time. Not all goods have a guarantee but they must still do the job for which they were made and last a reasonable amount of time according to the rules of the Consumer Council in Britain, and the Consumer Protection Agency in the US: *The radio has a two-year guarantee.* | *The car is less than a year old, and therefore still under guarantee.* [+ (that)] *Can you give me your guarantee* (=firm promise) *that the goods will be delivered before Friday?* | (fig.) *Clear skies are no guarantee of continued fine weather/that the weather will stay fine.* —compare WARRANTY 2 an agreement to be responsible for the fulfilment of someone



else's promise, esp. for paying a debt **3** something of value given to someone to keep until the owner has fulfilled a promise, esp. to pay what is owing —compare SECURITY (4)

**guarantee**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T] **1** to give a guarantee: *The manufacturers guarantee the watch for three years.* [+ (that)] *They have guaranteed that any faulty parts will be replaced free of charge.* [+to-v] *Our products are guaranteed to last for years.* [+obj+adj] *All our food is guaranteed free of artificial preservatives* **2** to promise (that something will certainly be so): *They have guaranteed delivery within three days.* [+ (that)] *Go and see that play — I guarantee (that) you'll enjoy it.* —see also WARRANTY

**guar-an-tor** /,gærən'tɔːr/ *n* law a person who agrees to be responsible for another person's fulfilling a promise, esp. paying a debt

**guar-an-ty** /'gærənti/ *n* law a guarantee, esp. of payment —see also WARRANTY

**guard**<sup>1</sup> /gɑːd/ *n* **1** [C] a person, esp. a soldier, policeman, or prison officer, who watches over a person or place to prevent escape, danger, attack, etc.: *The camp guards are changed every night.* | *security guards at the airport* **2** [(the) S+sing./pl. v] a group of people, esp. soldiers, whose duty it is to guard someone or something: *The prisoner was brought in under armed guard.* | *Lots of tourists go to Buckingham Palace to see the changing of the guard.* —see also OLD GUARD **3** [U] a state of watchful readiness to protect or defend: *There are soldiers on guard at the gate, to prevent anyone getting in or out.* | *The police are keeping guard over the house.* | *The soldiers stood/mounted guard over (=guarded) the palace.* | *The Rock of Gibraltar stands guard over the entrance to the Mediterranean.* **4** [C] (often in comb.) an apparatus which covers and protects: *Football players often wear shin guards.* (=to protect the lower part of their legs) —see also FIREGUARD, MUDGUARD **5** [C] BrE || **conductor** AmE — a railway official in charge of a train **6** [U] a position of being ready to defend oneself or protect oneself from danger, esp. in a fight: *I got in under my opponent's guard.* (=hit him although he was defending himself) | *Be on your guard against pickpockets.* | *The question caught her off (her) guard, and she couldn't think of an answer.*

**guard**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T] **1** [(against, from)] to watch over in order to protect from harm or danger or to prevent from escaping; keep safe: *The dog guarded the house (against intruders).* | *the heavily-guarded presidential palace* | (fig.) *Guard the secret with your life: tell it to no one!* **2** to keep under control: *You must guard your tongue carefully.* (=be careful what you say)

**guard against** sthg. *phr v* [T] to (try to) prevent by special care: *Brush your teeth regularly to guard against tooth decay.* [+v-ing] *You should wash your hands when preparing food, to guard against spreading infection.*

**guard-ed** /'gɑːdɪd/ *adj* (of a person or what they say) careful; not saying too much; NONCOMMITTAL: *He gave a guarded reply.* — ~ly *adv*

**guard-house** /'gɑːdhaʊs/ *n* -houses /,haʊzɪz/ [usu. sing.] a building for military guards, esp. at the entrance to a camp, sometimes also used for imprisonment of soldiers

**guard-i-an** /'gɑːdiən/ *n* **1** [(of)] esp. fml or lit someone who guards or protects: *It is not this newspaper's job to be guardian of the nation's morals.* **2** law someone who has the responsibility of looking after a child that is not their own, esp. after the parents' death. The guardian is usu. a member or close friend of the child's family. —compare WARD<sup>1</sup> (3)

**Guardian** [the] a national daily newspaper in Britain —see also extra information on page 896

**guardian an-gel** /,... 'ɔː/ *n* **1** a good spirit which protects a person or place. It is esp. children who believe in guardian angels. **2** a person who helps and protects another person

**Guardian An-gels** /,... 'ɔː/ [the] people who, unpaid, travel on the New York SUBWAYS or the London Underground and protect the other passengers from criminals

**Guardian read-er** /'... ,.../ *n* BrE a person who is well educated and has liberal or left-wing political opinions, thought to be the sort of person who reads the Guardian newspaper

**guard-i-an-ship** /'gɑːdiənʃɪp/ *n* [U] the position of, responsibility of, or period of time as a (legal) guardian

**guard-rail** /'gɑːd-reɪl/ *n* **1** a protective bar or RAIL intended a to prevent people from falling from a bridge or stairs or b esp. AmE to prevent drivers from going off the road **2** an additional railway line, fitted on curves to prevent the train running off the lines

**guard-room** /'gɑːd-rʊm, -ruːm/ *n* a (room of a) GUARDHOUSE

**Guards** /gɑːdz/ *n* also **Guards Di-vi-sion** /'... / — [the + P] a group of REGIMENTS (=large divisions of men) in the British Army, originally those who guarded the King or Queen. The Guards are considered to be some of the finest soldiers in the British Army, and becoming an officer in the Guards is thought to be a good CAREER for esp. upper-class young men. —see also COLDSTREAM GUARDS, GRENADIER, IRISH GUARDS, SCOTS GUARDS, WELSH GUARDS

**guards-man** /'gɑːdzmən/ *n* -men /mən/ (esp. in Britain) a soldier in the Guards

**guard's van** /'... / BrE || **caboose** AmE — *n* the part of a train, usu. at the back, where the GUARD<sup>1</sup> (5) travels. Bicycles, pets, and large boxes, cases, etc. can also travel here.

**Gua-te-ma-la** /,gwɑːtə'mɑːlə/ an independent republic in Central America, the home of the Mayan civilization for 1000 years; capital Guatemala; population 8,935,000 (1989) —malan *n*, adj

**gua-va** /'gwɑːvə/ *n* (a small tropical tree bearing) a round fruit with pink or white flesh and seeds in the centre. Guavas are not often on sale in Britain and are fairly expensive as they come from abroad. In the US guava nectar can be found in areas that have a large Hispanic population.

**gu-ber-na-to-ri-al** /,gʊːbəne'tɔːriəl/ *adj* fml or tech of a governor: *the gubernatorial elections in the US*

**Guc-ci** /'gʊːtʃi/ *tdmk* an Italian maker of fashion clothes, esp. leather products: *a Gucci handbag*

**Guer-ni-ca** /'gɜːnɪkə/ *n* a town in the Basque area of N Spain bombed by German aircraft in the Spanish Civil War (1937). The event is strikingly recorded in Pablo Picasso's painting *Guernica*.

**guern-sey** /'gɜːnzi/ *n* -seys a woollen SWEATER with a special pattern of raised stitches across the shoulder

**Guernsey** an island in the English Channel near NW France. Guernsey is one of the Channel Islands. It is popular for holidays and famous as a place where people pay very little tax.

**guer-ril-la**, **guerilla** /gə'rɪlə/ *n* a member of an unofficial military group, esp. one fighting to remove a government, which attacks its enemy in small groups unexpectedly: *guerrilla warfare/guerilla tactics* —compare FREEDOM FIGHTER, TERRORIST

**guess**<sup>1</sup> /ges/ *v* **1** [I (at); T] to form a judgment (about) or risk giving an opinion (on) without knowing or considering all the facts: *"I don't know the answer."* *"Well just guess!"* | *Can you guess (at) the price?* [+ (that)] *I guessed I'd find you in here!* [+wh-] *You'll never guess how much/what it cost.* [+obj+to-v] *I'd guess it to be about £300.* **2** [T] to get to know by guessing: *She guessed my thoughts.* | *"I suppose he's late again."* *"You've guessed it!"* **3** [T+ (that); obj; not in progressive forms] infml, esp. AmE to suppose; consider likely: *I guess you don't have time to go out now that you have young children.* | *"Will you be coming tomorrow?"* *"I guess so."* **4** **keep someone guessing** to keep someone uninformed and uncertain what will happen next —see also EDUCATED GUESS, SECOND-GUESS

**guess**<sup>2</sup> *n* **1** [(at)] an attempt to guess: *Have (BrE)/Take (AmE) a guess at the answer.* | *She made a wild guess, but it was completely wrong.* | *I'd say that, at a guess (=without being certain or exact), there were about 500 people there.* **2** an opinion formed by guessing: *My guess is that he didn't come because his parents wouldn't let him.* | *It's anybody's guess (=no one knows) when they'll arrive.* | *"Where do you think she's gone?"* *"I don't know — your guess is as good as mine."*

**guess-ti-mate** /'gestɪmət/ *n* infml an inexact judgment, esp. of quantity, made by guessing; a guessed ESTIMATE

**Guess Who's Coming to Dinner?** /,... 'ɔː/ a 1967



American film in which a white girl invites her black boyfriend home to meet her parents

**guess-work** /'geswɜ:k||-wɜ:rk/ *n* [U] the act of guessing, or the judgment which results: *She arrived at the right answer by pure guesswork.*

**guest**<sup>1</sup> /gest/ *n* **1** a person who is in someone's home by invitation, either for a short time or to stay: *a dinner guest* | *I have to give up my bedroom when we have guests.* —compare **HOST**<sup>1</sup> **2** a person who is invited out and paid for at a theatre, restaurant, etc.: *They are coming to the concert as my guests.* **3** a person who is lodging in a hotel or in someone's home: *Guests are requested not to remove the coathangers.* | *She takes in paying guests during the summer.* **4** a person, esp. an entertainer, who is invited to take part in a show, concert, etc., often in addition to those who usually take part: *Ladies and gentlemen, please welcome tonight's special guest.* | *She made a guest appearance on his TV show.* **5** *be my guest!* *infml* I would not mind if you did so; please feel free to do so: *"Can I borrow your pen?" "Be my guest!"* —compare **HOST**<sup>1</sup> (1); see **CUSTOMER** (USAGE), **VISITOR** (USAGE)

**guest**<sup>2</sup> *v* [I(on)] *esp. AmE* to take part as a guest performer: *She's guesting on the Bob Hope Show.*

**guest-house** /'gesthaus/ *n* -houses /,haʊzɪz/ a private house where visitors can stay and have meals for payment; a small hotel. Guesthouses are often used when people are on holiday or working away from home and are usu. cheaper than hotels.

**guest-room** /'gest-rum, -ru:m/ *n* a bedroom in a private house which is kept for visitors to sleep in

**guest work-er** /'.., -r/ *n* a foreign worker working in another country for a limited time. Guest workers usu. come from poorer countries, are employed in unskilled jobs, and are not always treated fairly or well.

**Guevara, Ché** see **CHE GUEVARA**

**guff** /gʌf/ *n* [U] *infml* nonsense: *That's all a load of guff!*

**guffaw** /gə'fɔ:z/ *v* [I] to laugh loudly, and perhaps rudely — **guffaw** *n*: *He gave a loud guffaw.* —see **LAUGH** (USAGE)

**Gug-gen-heim Mu-se-um**

/'gʊgənhaɪm mjuz, zizəm/ [*the*] an important collection of modern art in New York. Its full name is the **Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum**, after a famous American industrialist of that name (1861–1949). It is famous for its large circular building designed by Frank Lloyd Wright. —see picture at **WRIGHT** (Frank Lloyd) and see colour map on page 1376

the Guggenheim  
Museum designed by  
Frank Lloyd Wright



**guid-ance** /'gaɪdəns/ *n* [U] **1** help and advice, esp. on problems connected with one's work, education, or personal life: *The agency offers practical guidance to people starting their own businesses.* | *a marriage guidance counsellor* **2** the process of directing the course of a **MISSILE** in flight: *a sophisticated electronic guidance system*

**guidance coun-sel-or** /'.., -r/ *n* *AmE* someone employed by a **HIGH SCHOOL** to give advice to students about what subjects to study and to help students with personal or emotional problems

**guide**<sup>1</sup> /gaɪd/ *n* **1** something or someone that shows the way, esp. a person whose job is to show a place to tourists: *You need a guide to show you the city.* **2** [(to)] something that provides a model on which behaviour, opinions, etc. can be based: *These opinion polls are not a very reliable guide to the way people are likely to vote.* **3** [(to)] also **guide book** /'.., -/ a book which gives a description of a place, for the use of visitors **4** [(to)] a book which teaches the way to do something or provides information about something: *a parents' guide to children's diseases* **5** also **girl guide** *BrE* || **girl scout** *AmE* — (*often cap.*) a member of an association (the **Girl Guides Association**) for training girls in character and self-help. Originally established by Agnes, sister of Lord Baden-Powell and including a junior section (the **Brownie Guides**), the Guides is an international movement recognizable by its uniform and known for its aim of developing good citizenship among its members —compare **SCOUT**<sup>1</sup> (1)

**guide**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T] **1** [+obj+adv/prep] to show (someone) the way by leading: *He guided us through the narrow streets to the railway station.* | *The light guided them back to harbour.* | (fig.) *An experienced lawyer guided them through the complex application procedure.* —see **LEAD** (USAGE) **2** [+obj+adv/prep] to control (the movements of): *The pilot guided the plane onto the runway.* | (fig.) *The government will guide the country through the difficulties ahead.* **3** [*usu. pass.*] to influence strongly: *Be guided by your feelings, and tell her the truth before it's too late.*

**guided mis-sile** /'.., -/ *n* a **MISSILE** that is guided by electrical means to the thing it is aimed at

**guide dog** /'.., -/ *BrE* || **seeing eye dog** *AmE* — *n* a dog (*usu.* a **Labrador**) trained to guide a blind person

**guided tour** /'.., -/ *n* a tour on which people are shown places and told things about them by a **guide**<sup>1</sup> (1): *a guided tour of Blenheim Palace/of the Speedwell Caverns*

**guide-lines** /'gaɪdlaɪnz/ *n* [P] informal rules or instructions on how something should be done: *The new pay settlement goes outside the government's guidelines.* | *Before you start on this project, let me give you a few guidelines.*

**guild** /gɪld/ *n* **1** an association for businessmen or skilled workers who joined together in former times to help one another and to make rules for training new members **2** an association of people with similar interests: *the Townswomen's Guild*

**guil-der** /'gɪldə/ also **guldēn** — *n* the standard money unit of the Netherlands

**Guild-ford** /'gɪldfəd||-fərd/ a town in Surrey, SW of London

**Guildford Four** /'.., -/ *n* [*the*+P] four people who were sent to prison for life in 1975 for IRA bombings in the English town of Guildford. They were freed in 1989, and it was suggested that the police had acted wrongly to make them seem guilty. Along with other cases, this case has raised questions in Britain about police questioning of people they have caught for a crime, and about the way mistakes in justice are put right. —compare **BIRMINGHAM SIX**, **MAGUIRE SEVEN**, **TOTTENHAM THREE**

**guild-hall** /'gɪld'hɔ:l, 'gɪldhɔ:l||'gɪldhɔ:l/ *n* a building in which members of a guild used to meet

**Guildhall** [*the*] the meeting hall of the Corporation of the City of London, used officially for important occasions, esp. large formal meals

**guile** /gaɪl/ *n* [U] *fml* deceit, esp. of a clever indirect kind; **CUNNING**: *He persuaded her to sign the document by guile.* — *~ful adj* — *~fully adv*

**guile-less** /'gaɪl-ləs/ *adj* (appearing to be) lacking in any deceit; **INGENUOUS** — *~ly adv* — *~ness n* [U]

**guil-le-mot** /'gɪlɪmɒt||-mɔ:t/ *n* any of several kinds of seabirds with narrow **BEAKS** that live in northern parts of the world

**guil-lo-tine**<sup>1</sup> /'gɪləti:n/ *n* **1** a piece of equipment used esp. in France for cutting off the heads of criminals, which works by means of a heavy blade sliding down between two posts. It was used esp. during the **FRENCH REVOLUTION** to kill members of the **ARISTOCRACY**. **2** a piece of equipment used for cutting paper **3** an act of fixing a time to vote on a law in a law-making body, so that argument about it will not go on too long. Some people think that governments will do this in order to get the result they want: *to apply a guillotine*

**guillotine**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T] **1** to cut off the head of (a person) with a guillotine **2** to limit (argument) in a law-making body: *Discussion of the bill was guillotined.*

**guilt** /gɪlt/ *n* [U] **1** the fact of having broken a moral rule or official law: *The jury acquitted him (=let him go free) because his guilt could not be proved.* | *an admission of guilt* —opposite **innocence** **2** responsibility for something wrong; blame: *When children behave badly the guilt sometimes lies with the parents for not caring sufficiently.* **3** the feelings produced by knowledge or belief that one has done wrong; **REMORSE**: *She was tortured by guilt.* | *feelings of guilt* — *~less adj* — *~lessly adv* — *~lessness n* [U]

**guilty** /'gɪlti/ *adj* **1** [(of)] having broken a law or disobeyed a rule: *The jury found her guilty of murder.* | *"Prisoner at the bar, how do you plead: guilty or not guilty?"* (=a formal question in a British court of law) | *The police suspect that the secretary may be the guilty party.* (=person) —opposite **innocent** **2** [(of)] responsible for behaviour



that is morally wrong or socially unacceptable: *Politicians of all parties are guilty of ignoring this serious problem.* | *Whoever wrote this is guilty of appalling bad taste.* **3** [(about)] having or showing a feeling of guilt or shame: *She had a guilty look on her face.* | *a guilty conscience* | *I feel very guilty about forgetting to post your letter.* —*ily adv* —*iness n* [U]

**guin-ea** /'gɪni/ *n* (the value of) a former British gold coin, worth £1.05

**Guinea** a country in W Africa; capital Conakry; population 6,706,000 (1989) —**Guinean** *n, adj*

**Guinea-Bis-sau** /,gɪni bɪ'sau/ a country in W Africa; capital Bissau; population 966,000 (1989)

**guinea fowl** /'..-/ *n* **guinea fowl** a grey African bird with white spots which may be kept for its eggs and for food

**guinea pig** /'..-/ *n* **1** a small roundish furry animal rather like a rabbit but with short ears and no tail, which is often kept by children as a pet, and is sometimes used in scientific tests **2** a person who is the subject of some kind of test: *I must try this new recipe out on someone. Will you be my guinea pig?* | *They're using us as guinea pigs for their experiment.*

**Guin-e-vere** /'gwiɪnvɪə/ the wife of King Arthur —see ARTHURIAN LEGEND

**Guin-ness** /'gɪnɪs/ *n* *tdmk* **1** [C;U] a strong dark beer (a STOUT) with a creamy white FROTH on top of it. Guinness is generally considered to be the national drink of the Irish and has a well-known advertising phrase, "Guinness is good for you", which many people believe to be true. **2** a British company which produces this beer

**Guinness, Sir Al-ec** /'ælɪk/ (1914– ) an English theatre and film actor well-known for playing many different parts. His best known films are *Lawrence of Arabia*, *The Bridge on the River Kwai*, and *Kind Hearts and Coronets*, in which he played eight parts

**Guinness Af-fair** /'..-/ [the] a 1990 criminal case in which four men connected with the Guinness company were fined (FINE) and/or put in prison for FRAUD

**Guinness Book of Rec-ords** /,..-./ *n* [the] a book brought out every year containing details of things that have happened more, faster, better, etc. than ever before. People often talk about getting into (=having their name entered in) the Guinness Book of Records because not all the records are serious and many are a result of amusing activities done to collect money for good causes.

**guise** /gaɪz/ *n* *fml* an outer appearance, esp. one that is intended to deceive: *There is nothing new here; just the same old ideas in a different/new guise.* | *In his new film he appears in various guises: as a lawyer, a soldier, a window cleaner, etc.*

**gui-tar** /gɪ'taː/ *n* a musical instrument that has usu. six strings, with a long neck, played by striking or plucking (PLUCK) the strings with the fingers or a small piece of hard material (a PLECTRUM *BrE* || PICK *AmE*). It can have either a hollow wooden body (acoustic guitar) or, when played using electricity, a solid plastic body (electric guitar). —*ist n*

**Guj-a-ra-ti, Gujarati** /,gudʒə'rɑːti/ *n* **Gujarati** **1** the language of an area of India (Gujarat) and neighbouring areas **2** a member of a people mainly from Gujarat speaking Gujarati. A number of people living in Britain are either from or descended from people from this area and continue speaking the language.

**gu-lag** /'guːlæɡ||-lɑːɡ/ *n* any of various prison camps in the former USSR, established in 1930. The bad conditions in gulags were described by Alexander Solzhenitsyn in his book *The Gulag Archipelago*.

**gulch** /gʌltʃ/ *n* *AmE* (esp. in the western US) a narrow stony valley with steep sides formed by a rushing stream

**gul-den** /'guldən||'guːl-/ *n* **guldens or gulden** a GUILDER

**gulf** /gʌlf/ *n* **1** (often *cap.* as part of a name) a large deep stretch of sea partly enclosed by land: *the Persian Gulf* **2** [(between)] an area of serious difference or separation, esp. between opinions: *There seems no hope of a reconciliation; if anything the gulf between the two families is widening.* **3** *lit* a deep hollow place in the Earth's surface; CHASM

**Gulf** also **Arabian Gulf, Persian Gulf** [the] a part of the Indian Ocean between Iran and the Arabian Peninsula.

It is strategically very important in the Middle East.

**Gulf** an American company producing oil and petrol: *There is a Gulf garage on the corner.*

**Gulf of Mex-i-co** /,..-./ [the] an area of the Atlantic Ocean, bordered by Cuba, Mexico, and the US —see colour map on pages 1374–5

**Gulf States** /'..-/ [the] **1** the small Arab states on the Gulf: Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar, and the United Arab Emirates. These countries are very rich in oil. **2** *AmE* the US states that border on the Gulf of Mexico

**Gulf Stream** /'..-/ [the] a current of warm water which flows north eastward in the Atlantic Ocean from the Gulf of Mexico towards Europe. It is thought that the Gulf Stream keeps Britain much warmer than it would be otherwise.

**Gulf War** /,..'-/ [the] a war which began in 1991 after the Iraqi army occupied Kuwait declaring it the 19th PROVINCE of Iraq. Forces, mainly from the US, under the flag of the United Nations intervened and they were successful in driving the Iraqis out of Kuwait.

**gull** /gʌl/ also **seagull** — *n* any of several kinds of common fairly large black and white or grey and white flying seabirds —see picture at WATER BIRD

**gull** <sup>2</sup> *v* [T] *esp. lit or old-fash* to cheat or deceive

**gul-let** /'gʌlɪt/ *n* *infml* the (inner) throat; foodpipe from the mouth to the stomach: *A piece of food got stuck in his gullet.* | (fig.) *This kind of dishonesty sticks in my gullet.* (=is unacceptable to me)

**gul-li-ble** /'gʌlɪbəl/ *adj* easily tricked or persuaded to believe something: *He's so gullible you could sell him anything.* —*bly adv* —*bility* /,gʌlɪ'bɪlɪti/ *n* [U]

**Gul-li-ver's Trav-els** /,gʌlɪvəz ,trævəlz || -vərz-/ the title of a book by Jonathan Swift about the adventures of a character named Gulliver. Gulliver travels to many imaginary places, the best remembered being Lilliput, where he meets a race of tiny people (Lilliputians). The most moral and highly developed creatures that he meets on his travels are a race of talking horses called the Houyhnhnms, while the worst creatures he meets are called Yahoos, who look very much like humans.

**gul-ly, -ley** /'gʌli/ *n* **1** a small narrow valley cut esp. into a hillside by heavy rain —see VALLEY (USAGE), and see picture at MOUNTAIN **2** a deep ditch or other small waterway

**gulp** /gʌlp/ *v* **1** [T (DOWN)] to swallow hastily: *She gulped (down) her coffee and rushed out.* **2** [I] to make a sudden swallowing movement as if surprised or nervous: *He gulped when he saw the bill.*

**gulp** sthg. ↔ **back** *phr v* [T] to prevent the expression of feeling (as if) by swallowing: *She gulped back her tears.*

**gulp** <sup>2</sup> *n* **1** [(of)] a large mouthful: *She took a few gulps of coffee and rushed out of the house.* **2** an act of gulping: *He gave a nervous gulp.*

**gum** /gʌm/ *n* (*usu. pl.*) either of the two areas of firm pink flesh in which the teeth are fixed, at the top and bottom of the mouth: *Massage your gums after cleaning your teeth.* —see picture at TEETH

**gum** <sup>2</sup> *n* **1** [U] any of several sticky substances obtained from the stems of some trees and bushes **2** [U] a sticky substance used for sticking things together: *These labels have gum on the back.* **3** [U] CHEWING GUM OR BUBBLE GUM **4** [C] also **gumdrop** — a hard transparent jelly-like sweet: *a fruit gum* **5** [C] a GUM TREE

**gum** <sup>3</sup> *v* -**mm-** [T+obj+adv/prep] to stick (something) in position with GUM <sup>2</sup> (2): *She gummed the labels to her suitcase.*

**gum** sthg. ↔ **up** *phr v* [T] *infml* to prevent from working properly: *All this dirt that has got into my watch has gummed up the works.*

**gum** <sup>4</sup> *n* by **gum** *BrE dial, AmE dial, or humor* (used as an expression of surprise)

**gum-bo** /'gʌmbəʊ/ *n* -**bos** [U] **1** a soup with meat or seafood, vegetables, and OKRA to thicken it, made popular by CAJUN cooking from the southern US **2** *AmE dial* for OKRA

**gum-boil** /'gʌmbɔɪl/ *n* *infml* a painful swelling on the GUM <sup>1</sup>, usu. near a tooth which is decayed; ABSCESS

**gum-boot** /'gʌmbuːt/ *n* *esp. BrE* a WELLINGTON



**gum-drop** /'gʌmdrɒp||-drɔ:p/ *n* a hard jelly-like sweet; GUM<sup>2</sup> (4)

**gum-my** /'gʌmi/ *adj* sticky; covered with sticky GUM<sup>2</sup> (2)  
--miness *n* [U]

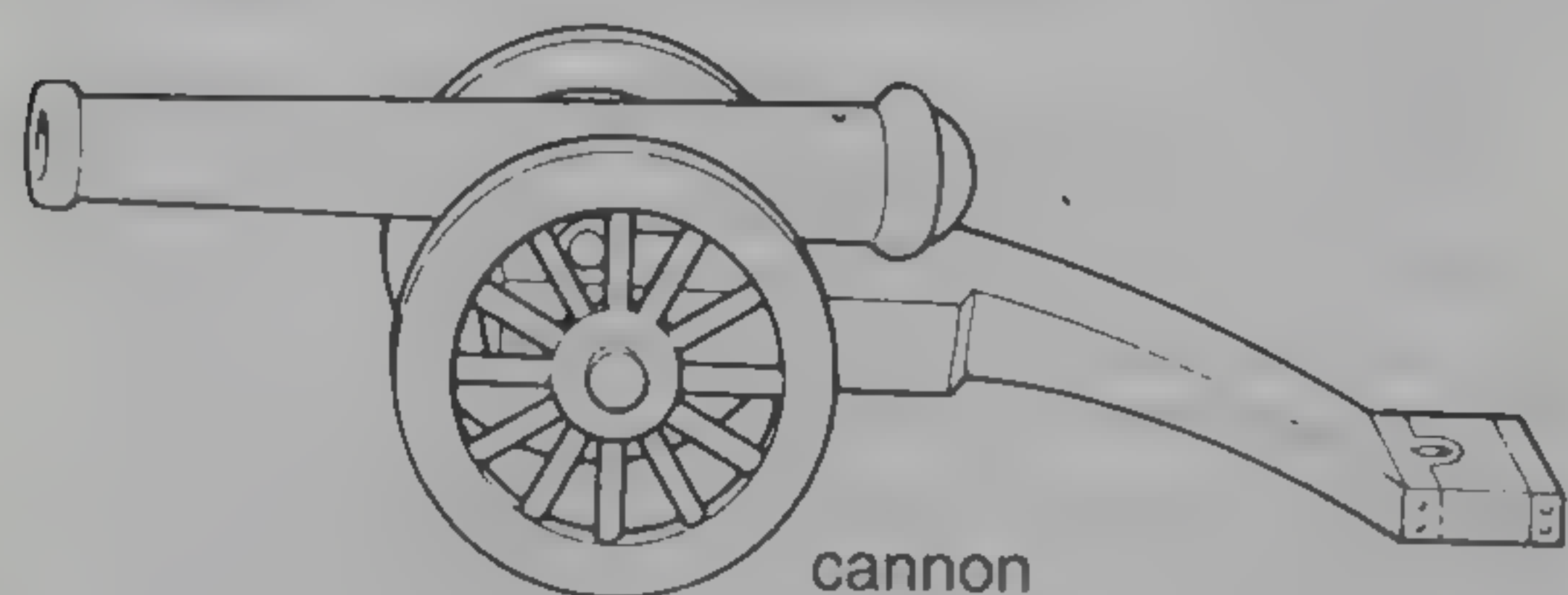
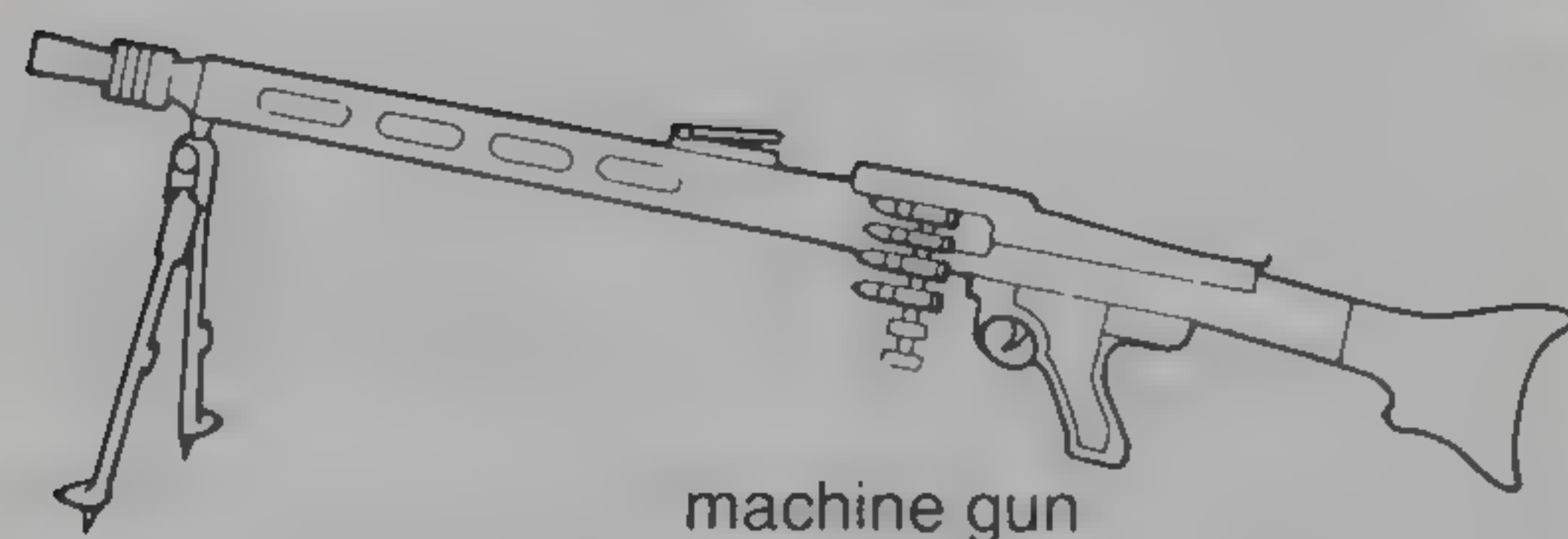
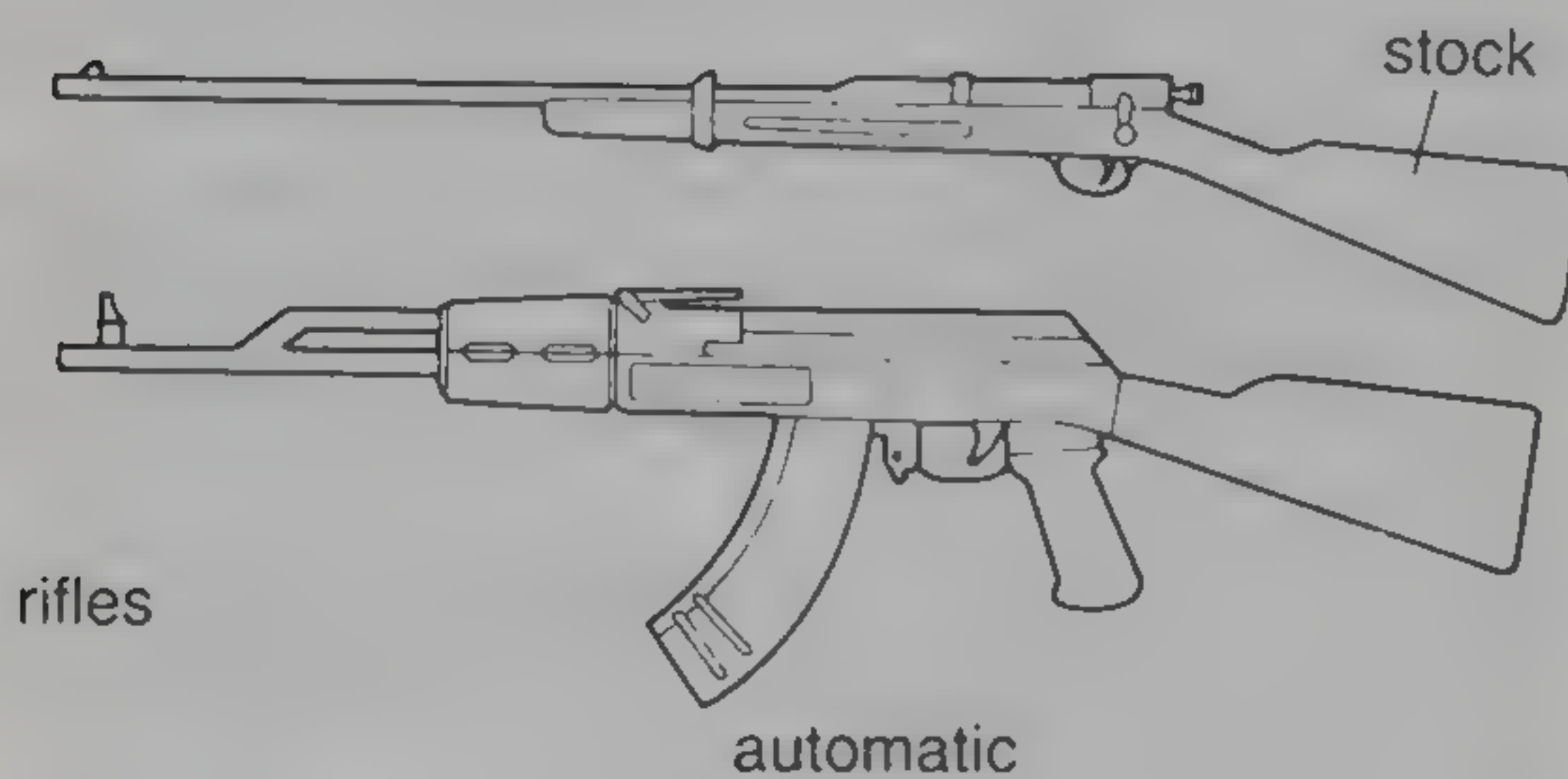
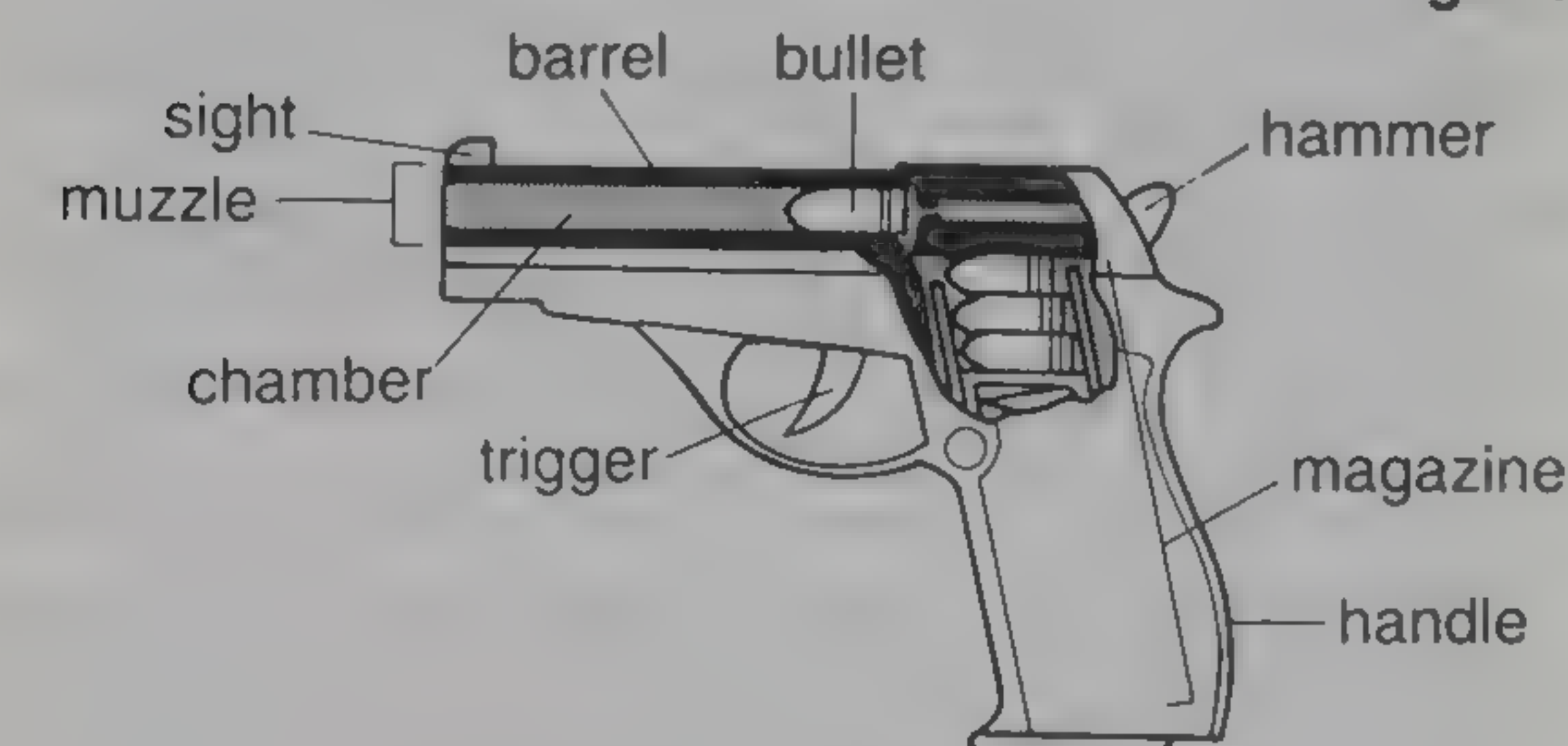
**gumption** /'gʌmpʃən/ *n* [U] *infml* 1 the ability to think and act in a practical way; good sense: *When the pan of chips caught fire he had the gumption to cover it with a damp cloth.* 2 the ability to take action needing courage and determination: *It takes a lot of gumption to start up your own business single-handed.*

**gum-shoe** /'gʌm,ʃu:/ *n* AmE *sl* for DETECTIVE

**gum tree** /'gʌm.ti:/ *n* 1 any of various trees that produce gum 2 the American sweet gum tree 3 also **gum**— *esp. Aus- trE* the EUCALYPTUS tree 4 **up a gum tree** BrE *infml* in a difficult situation with no means of escape

**gun**<sup>1</sup> /gʌn/ *n* 1 a weapon from which bullets or SHELLS<sup>1</sup> (2) are fired through a metal tube (BARREL). Gun ownership is strictly controlled in Britain, and most of the police force do not carry guns. In the US, the police carry guns and the public often own them. —see GUN CONTROL, 2 a tool which forces out and spreads a substance by pressure: *a grease gun* 3 *infml, esp. AmE* for GUNMAN: *a hired gun* —see also SON-OF-A-GUN, **go great guns** (GREAT<sup>1</sup>), **jump the gun** (JUMP<sup>1</sup>), **spike someone's guns** (SPIKE<sup>2</sup>), **stick to one's guns** (STICK to)

## guns

gun<sup>2</sup> *v*

**gun** sbdy. ↔ **down** *phr v* [T] *infml* to shoot and kill or wound with a gun, esp. without pity: *Innocent villagers were gunned down by the terrorists.*

**gun for** sbdy. *phr v* [T] *infml, esp. BrE* to try to find rea-

sons for attacking or harming (someone): *Ever since I proved he'd made a mistake in the accounts he's been gunning for me, trying to get me dismissed.*

**gun-boat** /'gʌnbəʊt/ *n* a small but heavily armed naval warship for use in waters near the coast

**gunboat di-plo-ma-cy** /'gʌnbəʊt.dɪ.plo.mə.sɪ/ *n* [U] *derog* the use of a threat of armed force by a country to support a claim, demand, complaint, etc., against another

**gun car-riage** /'gʌn.ˌkærɪdʒ/ *n* a frame with wheels on which a heavy gun is moved from place to place

**gun con-trol** /'gʌn.kən.trəl/ *n* [U] laws which forbid or greatly restrict the possessing or using of guns. In the US, gun control is a subject about which everyone has a strong opinion. Guns kill so many people every year that many people would like them to be forbidden by law. However, the American Constitution states that every American has the right to have arms, and many people fear that gun control would stop them from being able to defend themselves, and being able to hunt. The National Rifle Association works to stop the American government forbidding guns.

**gun cot-ton** /'gʌn.kɒ.tən/ *n* [U] a powerful explosive

**gun-dog** /'gʌndɒg||-dɔ:g/ also **bird dog** AmE— *n* a dog trained to help in the sport of shooting birds, esp. by finding and bringing back the dead bird

**gun-fight** /'gʌnfait/ *n* *esp. AmE* a fight between two or more people, using esp. hand-held guns: *a fierce gunfight between police and criminals | rival gangs in a street gunfight* —see colour picture on page 358

► **CULTURAL NOTE** Gunfights are often thought of in connection with the American WILD WEST. ◀

**gun-fight-er** /'gʌnfaitə/ *n* a person who fights others, using a gun, esp. formerly in the American Wild West —see colour picture on page 358

**gun-fire** /'gʌnfaiə/ *n* [U] the sound or act of firing one or more guns

**gunge** /gʌndʒ/ BrE || **gunk** /gʌŋk/ AmE— *n* [U] *infml* an unpleasant, dirty, and/or sticky substance: *What's this horrible gunge in the bottom of the bucket?*

**gung-ho** /,gʌŋ 'həʊ/ *adj infml* showing extreme, often foolish eagerness, esp. to attack an enemy: *a gung-ho attitude to international relations*

**gun lob-by** /'gʌn.lɒ.bi/ [the] (in the US) any group or groups who try to influence the Congress to defeat laws that will limit people's rights to buy and keep guns —see also NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION

**gun-man** /'gʌnmən/ *n* -men /mən/ a man armed with a gun, esp. a criminal or TERRORIST

**gun-met-al** /'gʌn.metl/ *n* [U] 1 a metal which is a mixture of copper, tin, lead, and ZINC from which chains, belt fasteners, etc., are made 2 a dark blue grey colour

**gun-nel** /'gʌnl/ *n* GUNWALE

**gun-ner** /'gʌnə/ *n* 1 any member of the armed forces whose job is to aim or fire a gun 2 a soldier in a part of the British army which uses heavy guns (ARTILLERY): *Gunner Smith*

**gun-ner-y** /'gʌnəri/ *n* [U] the science and practice of shooting with heavy guns: *a gunnery officer*

**gun-ny-sack** /'gʌnisæk/ *n* AmE a sack, usu. measuring about 1 m deep, made from HESSIAN, in which potatoes, coal, etc. are stored

**gun-point** /'gʌnpɔɪnt/ *n* **at gunpoint** under a threat of death by shooting: *They were forced at gunpoint to hand over the money.*

**gun-pow-der** /'gʌn.paʊdə/ *n* [U] an explosive substance in the form of a powder

**Gunpowder Plot** /'gʌnpaʊdə.plɒt/ [the] a plan by English Catholics led by Guy Fawkes to kill King James I and destroy Parliament by means of explosives on November 5th 1605. The plan failed when one of the Catholics warned a relative not to attend Parliament that day and all the people in the Plot were caught and killed. The event is remembered every November 5th on Guy Fawkes Night. —see also GUY FAWKES, GUY FAWKES NIGHT

**gun-run-ner** /'gʌn.rʌnə/ *n* a person who secretly and illegally brings guns into a country, esp. for the use of those who wish to fight against their own government. —running *n* [U]



**gun-shot** /'gʌnʃɒt||-ʃa:t/ *n* 1 [C] the act or sound of firing a gun: *gunshot wounds* 2 [U] the distance reached by a shot from a gun: *The animal was out of gunshot.*

**gun-shy** /'gʌnʃaɪ/ *adj* (esp. of a GUNDOG) easily frightened by the noise of a gun being fired

**gun-smith** /'gʌn,smɪθ/ *n* a person who makes and repairs small guns

**Gun-smoke** /'gʌnsməʊk/ a long-running American television programme, set in Dodge City, a town in the Wild West. Though the programme has ended, its characters are still remembered, including Matt Dillon, the MARSHAL (=policeman) of the town, and Miss Kitty, who owned a SALOON (=bar).

**gun-wale, gunnel** /'gʌnl/ *n tech* the upper edge of the side of a small ship or a boat —see picture at YACHT

**gur-gle**¹ /'gʊ:gzəl||'gʊ:z-r-/ *v* [I] 1 [(with)] (esp. of a baby) to make a sound like water flowing unevenly, e.g. out of a bottle or over stones: *The baby gurgled with pleasure.* 2 [+adv/prep] to flow with such a sound: *The water gurgled down the plughole.*

**gurgle**² *n* [(the) S] the sound of gurgling: *the gurgle of the brook* (=small stream) *over the little pebbles*

**Gur-khas** /'gʊ:kəz||'gʊ:z-r-/ [*the*] a REGIMENT (=large division of men) in the British army. Originally from Nepal, the Gurkhas are best known for their bravery in battle and fierce fighting qualities.

**gu-ru** /'gʊrʊ:/ *n* 1 an Indian religious leader or teacher of religious practices, esp. those that produce peace of mind 2 *infml* a greatly respected person whose ideas are followed: *J M Keynes was the great guru of economics.* | *one of the president's foreign policy gurus*

**gush**¹ /gʌʃ/ *v* 1 [I+adv/prep] (of liquid) to flow or pour out in large quantities (as if) from a hole or cut: *Oil gushed out from the broken pipe.* | *Blood gushed from the wound.* | *a gushing fountain* 2 [T] to send out (liquid) in large quantities: *The wound gushed blood.* 3 [I (over)] *derog* to express admiration, pleasure, etc., too strongly and perhaps without true feeling: *Look at them all gushing over the new baby.*

**gush**² *n* [S (of)] a (sudden) flow of liquid in large quantities: *When he removed the bandage there was a gush of blood.* | (fig.) *a gush of congratulations*

**gush-er** /'gʌʃə/ *n* an OIL WELL from which oil rushes out strongly without pumping being necessary

**gush-ing** /'gʌʃɪŋ/ also **gush-y** /'gʌʃi/ *infml* — *adj* expressing admiration, pleasure, etc. too strongly and perhaps without true feeling: *a gushing account of the two presidents' meeting* | *She's rather gushing.*

**gus-set** /'gʌsɪt/ *n* a three or four-sided piece of cloth sewn into a larger garment to strengthen or widen it at a particular place such as under the arm

**gust**¹ /gʌst/ *n* [(of)] a sudden strong rush of air, or of rain, smoke, etc., carried by wind: *A gust of wind blew the door shut.* | (fig.) *a gust of anger* —see WIND (USAGE)

**gust**² *v* [I] (of wind) to blow in gusts: *The wind will gust up to 45 miles an hour.*

**gus-ta-to-ry** /'gʌstətəri||-tɔ:ri/ *adj tech or pomp* connected with tasting

**gus-to** /'gʌstəʊ/ *n* [U] eager enjoyment (in doing or having something); ZEST: *He started eating with great gusto.*

**gust-y** /'gʌsti/ *adj* (with wind) blowing in gusts: *a gusty day* | *a gusty wind*

**gut**¹ /gʌt/ *n* 1 [C] *med* the foodpipe which passes through the body, esp. the part below the stomach 2 [U] a strong thread made from this part of animals: *a fishing line made of gut* —see also GUTS, CATGUT

**gut**² *v* -tt- [T] 1 to take out the inner organs, esp. GUTS of (a dead animal): *Gut the rabbit before you cook it.* 2 [often pass.] to destroy the inside of (a building) completely, esp. by fire: *The factory was gutted by flames.*

**gut**³ *adj* [A] *infml* coming from or concerning one's natural feelings, rather than from careful thought: *I had a gut feeling that something would go wrong.* | *My gut reaction is to refuse, but I can't explain why.*

**gut course** /'gʌt ,-/ *n AmE sl* a course of study in a college or university in which a passing mark can be got without much work

**Gu-ten-berg Bi-ble** /,gʊtənɜ:zɡ 'baɪbəl||-bɜ:zrg-/ [*the*] a Bible which was the first book to be printed using movable TYPE¹ (2) (named after the printer Johann Gutenberg (1397–1468))

**Guth-rie** /'gʌθri/, **Woody** (1912–67) an American FOLK² singer, songwriter, and GUITAR player, esp. remembered for his songs against war

**gut-less** /'gʌtləs/ *adj infml* cowardly — ~ness *n* [U]

**gut-rot** /'gʌtrɒt||-rɔ:t/ *n* [U] *BrE infml* a pain in the stomach

**guts** /gʌts/ *n* [P] *infml* 1 the bowels or INTESTINES: *I've got a terrible pain in my guts/in the guts.* 2 bravery and determination: *We all agreed the boss was making a terrible mistake, but no one had the guts to tell him.* | *It takes a lot of guts to do something like that.* 3 the inner working parts of something, esp. of machinery 4 *hate someone's guts infml* to hate someone very strongly

**guts-y** /'gʌtsi/ *adj infml apprec* brave and determined: *That young boxer is a gutsy fighter.*

**gut-ter**¹ /'gʌtə/ *n* 1 [C] a small ditch or CHANNEL beside a road, between it and the path, to collect and carry away rainwater —see picture at HOUSE 2 [C] an open pipe fixed at the lower edge of a roof to collect and carry away rainwater 3 [C] the long narrow BOWLING place where the bowls are rolled in 4 [*the*] the lowest poorest level of society: *He picked her up out of the gutter and made her rich and famous.*

**gutter**² *v* [I] *lit* (of a candle) to burn with an uneven flame; FLICKER

**gutter press** /'gʌtə ,-/ *n* [*the*+sing./pl. v] *derog* newspapers which tend to be full of shocking stories about people's personal lives. These papers are not generally considered to contain much serious news but are quite easy to read and very popular with many people. —see also extra information on page 896

**gut-ter-snipe** /'gʌtəsnaɪp||-ər-/ *n infml derog* a child of the poorest parts of a town, living in the worst conditions, and usu. dressed in torn dirty clothes

**gut-tur-al** /'gʌtəɹəl/ *adj* (of speech or a speech sound) which seems to be produced deep in the throat: *a guttural accent/voice/sound*

**guy** /gʌv/ *n BrE sl* GUVNOR (2)

**guy-nor**, **guy'nor** /'gʌvnə/ *n BrE sl* 1 a man who is in a position of control over one, such as an employer or father: *I'm only the office boy here, you'd better ask the guv-nor.* 2 also **guy**— *old use* (used for addressing a man, esp. of higher position or social class): *Have you got the time guvnor?*

**guy**¹ /gaɪ/ *n* 1 *infml a* a man: *He's quite a nice guy when you get to know him.* **b** *esp. AmE* any person, male or female: *Come on, you guys!* —see also WISE GUY 2 a figure of a man, burnt in Britain on Guy Fawkes Night. Shortly before Guy Fawkes Night, children make guys and ask people for money, saying “a penny for the guy!”. They then spend the money on FIREWORKS.

**guy**² also **guy rope** /'gʌi ,-/ *n* a rope stretched from the top or side of a pole or from the side of a tent to the ground, to hold it in place

**guy**³ *v* [T] *rare* to copy or show (esp. a person) in a funny way so as to make people laugh

**Guy-an-a** /gaɪ'ænə/ a country in NE South America, formerly British Guiana; capital Georgetown; population 1,024,000 (1989) **Guyanese** /,gaɪə'nɪz-/ *n, adj*

**Guy Fawkes' Night** /,gaɪ 'fɔ:ks naɪt/ also **Bonfire Night**, **Fireworks Night**— *n* [C;U] November 5th, when in Britain people light FIREWORKS and burn a GUY on a BONFIRE. This is in memory of the time when Guy Fawkes tried to destroy Parliament in London in 1605. The historical meaning of the occasion is no longer important —see also GUY FAWKES, GUNPOWDER PLOT and colour picture on page 1211

**Guy's** /gaɪz/ Guy's Hospital, an important teaching hospital in London

**guz-zle** /'gʌzəl/ *v* [I;T] *often derog* to eat or drink eagerly, quickly, and often continuously: *He's been guzzling beer all evening.* —**guzzler** *n*: (fig.) *These big cars are real gas guzzlers.* (=use a lot of petrol)

**Gwent** /gwent/ a COUNTY in S Wales



**Gwyn** /gwin/, **Nell** /nel/ (1650?–87) an English actress and lover of Charles II. She also sold oranges on the streets of London, and is often shown carrying a basket of oranges.

**Gwynedd** /'gwinɪd̥/ a COUNTY in NW Wales

**gym** /dʒɪm/ *n* *infml* 1 [C] a gymnasium, esp. one where people go to do fitness training, e.g. lifting weights 2 [U] indoor exercises for the development of the body, esp. as a school subject: *gym shoes* | *a gym lesson* — compare PT

**gym-kha-na** /dʒɪm'kɑ:nə/ *n* *esp. BrE* a local sports meeting for horse racing, horse jumping, and competitions for horse and carriage

**gym-na-si-um** /dʒɪm'neɪziəm/ *n* a hall with wall bars, ropes, and other equipment for climbing, jumping, and similar forms of exercise

**gym-nast** /'dʒɪmnæst, -nəst/ *n* a person who is skilled in doing certain physical exercises, esp. one who enters competitions

**gym-nas-tics** /dʒɪm'næstɪks/ *n* [U] the art or practice of training the body by means of certain exercises, such as

## Nell Gwyn



swinging on bars or jumping over things, often performed in competition with others: (fig.) *verbal gymnastics* (=using words very skilfully) | *Working out that puzzle really took some mental gymnastics!* (=some clever thinking) —**tic** *adj* [A]

**gym shoe** /'··/ *n* *BrE* for PLIMSOLL —see picture at SHOE

**gym-slip** /'dʒɪm,slɪp/ *n* *BrE* a sort of dress without SLEEVES, formerly worn by schoolgirls as part of a uniform

**gymslip moth-er** /,··'··/ *n* *BrE* a girl who has a baby while she is still at school and esp. under the AGE OF CONSENT

**gy-nae-col-o-gy** *gynecology* *AmE* /,gaɪnɪ'kɒlədʒi/ -'kɑ:-/ *n* [U] the branch of medicine dealing with the workings and diseases of women's bodies, esp. of the female sex organs —**ogist** *n* —**ogical** /-kə'lɒdʒɪkəl/ -'lɑ:-/ *adj*

**gyp**<sup>1</sup> /dʒɪp/ *n* [U] *sl, esp. BrE* sharp pain or punishment: *My bad tooth is really giving me gyp this morning.*

**gyp**<sup>2</sup> *v* -pp- [T] *sl* to cheat

**gyp-sum** /'dʒɪpsəm/ *n* [U] a soft white chalklike substance, from which PLASTER OF PARIS is made

**gyp-sy** /'dʒɪpsi/ *n* a GIPSY

**gy-rate** /dʒaɪ'reɪət/ || 'dʒaɪəreɪt/ *v* [I] *fml* to swing round and round on a fixed point, either in one direction or with changes of direction: *The dancers gyrated wildly to the strong beat of the music.* —**-ration** /dʒaɪə'reɪʃən/ *n* [C;U]

**gy-ro-scope** /'dʒaɪərəskəʊp/ also **gy-ro** /'dʒaɪərəʊ/ *infml* —*n* a heavy wheel which spins inside a frame, used for keeping ships and aircraft steady, and also as a children's toy —**-scopic** /,dʒaɪərə'skɒpɪk/ -'skɑ:-/ *adj*



# H

**H** /eɪtʃ/ **H's, h's or Hs, hs** the eighth letter of the English alphabet —see also **H-BOMB**

**H** *adj* (of a pencil) having a hard centre and producing a light black mark. **2H** is harder than **H**. —compare **B**, **HB**

**H<sub>2</sub>O** /ˌeɪtʃ tuː ˈəʊ/ *n* [**U**] *tech* water, as expressed in chemistry (sometimes used humorously in ordinary speech)

**ha** /hɑː/ *interj* (used as a shout of surprise, interest, etc.) —see also **AHA**, **HA-HA**

**ha-be-as cor-pus** /ˌheɪbiəs ˈkɔːpəs/ -ˈkɔːr-/ *n* [**U**] *law Lat* (protection against unlimited imprisonment without charges, given by) the right of someone in prison to appear in a court of law so that the court can decide whether they should stay in prison: *She applied for a writ of habeas corpus.* (=a written order for someone to appear in court for this purpose)

**hab-er-dash-er** /ˈhæbədæʃər/ -bər-/ *n* [**old-fash or tech** **1 BrE** a shopkeeper who sells pins, sewing thread, and other small things used in dressmaking **2 AmE** a shopkeeper who sells men's clothing, esp. hats, **GLOVES**, etc.

**hab-er-dash-er-y** /ˈhæbədæʃəri/ -bər-/ *n* [**C;U**] *old-fash or tech* (the goods sold in) a haberdasher's shop or a haberdasher's department in a department store

**hab-it** /ˈhæbɪt/ *n* **1** [**C; U**] a tendency to behave in a particular way or do particular things, esp. regularly and repeatedly over a long period: *She has an annoying habit of biting her fingernails.* | *I smoke only out of/from habit; I wish I could break the habit.* | *Cigarettes are habit-forming.* (=make you want to keep smoking them) | *I'm not in the habit of lending money,* (=I don't usually do it) *but I'll make an exception in this case.* | *You can borrow some money this time, but don't make a habit of it.* | *bad habits* | *eating habits* **2** [**C**] a special set of clothes, esp. that worn by **MONKS** and **NUNS**

▷ **USAGE** Compare **habit**, **custom**, **practice**, and **convention**. A **habit** usually means something which is done regularly by a single person: *He has an annoying habit of biting his nails.* A **custom** usually means something which has been done for a long time by a whole society: *the custom of giving presents at Christmas.* **Practice** can mean **custom**, but often with a derogatory meaning: *the practice of eating one's enemies.* It can also mean the usual way of doing things in business, law, etc.: *The normal practice in this company is to send the bill as soon as the job is done.* The **conventions** of a society are its generally accepted standards of behaviour: *As a matter of convention, people attending funerals wear dark clothes.* ◁

**hab-i-ta-ble** /ˈhæbɪtəbəl/ *adj fml* good enough to be lived in: *Their damp draughty house was scarcely habitable.* —opposite **uninhabitable**

**hab-i-tat** /ˈhæbɪtæt/ *n* the natural home of a plant or animal: *The polar bear's habitat is the icy wastes of the Arctic.* | *I prefer to see animals in their natural habitat, rather than in zoos.*

**Habitat** (a shop owned by) a British company which manufactures and sells a range of furniture and furnishings for houses. Habitat products are known for being practical, attractive, and reasonably priced, and are often made from natural materials, e.g. wood. They are popular esp. with **MIDDLE-CLASS** people.

**hab-i-ta-tion** /ˌhæbɪˈteɪʃən/ *n fml* **1** [**U**] the act of living in a place: *This dilapidated old house is unfit for human habitation.* **2** [**C**] a house or place to live in

**ha-bit-u-al** /həˈbɪtʃuəl/ *adj fml* **1** [**A**] usual; customary: *her habitual rudeness/greeting* **2** done as a habit or doing something from habit: *He's a habitual coffee drinker — he gets through about ten cups a day.* | *habitual cigarette smoking* — ~ly *adv*: *habitually late*

**ha-bit-u-ate** /həˈbɪtʃueɪt/ *v*

**habituate** sbdy. to sthg. *phr v* [**T often pass.**] *fml* to allow (oneself) to get used to: *to become habituated to a drug* [+*v-ing*] *Over the centuries, these animals have become habituated to living in such a dry environment.*

**ha-bit-u-é** /həˈbɪtʃueɪ/ *n* [(of)] a regular attender: *a habitué of the nightclub*

**Habs-burg** /ˈhæpsbɜːg/ -bɜːrg/ *adj* **HAPSBURG**

**ha-ci-en-da** /ˌhæsiˈendə/ *n Sp* (the main house of) a large farm in Spanish-speaking countries

**hack**<sup>1</sup> /hæk/ *v* **1** [**I+adv/prep; T+obj+adv/prep**] to cut (up), esp. roughly, violently, or in uneven pieces: *She hacked away at the frozen ice, trying to make a hole.* | *They hacked their way through the jungle.* | *One of the police officers was hacked to death by the mob.* **2** [**T**] *sl* to bear: *I've been doing this job for years but I just can't hack it anymore.* —**hack** *n* [(at)] : *He made a hack at the log.*

**hack**<sup>2</sup> *n* **1 derog** a writer who does a lot of poor quality work, esp. writing stories or newspaper articles: *Fleet Street hacks* | *hack journalism* —see also **HACKWORK** **2 derog, esp. BrE** an unimportant politician who is concerned mainly with party matters: *The meeting was attended by the usual old party hacks.* **3** an old tired horse **4** a light horse for riding **5 BrE** a ride on horseback **6 AmE infml** a taxi

**hack**<sup>3</sup> *v* [**I;T+obj+adv/prep**] *BrE* to ride (a horse) at an ordinary speed along roads or through the country

**hack-er** /ˈhækər/ *n infml* someone who is able to use or change the information in other people's computer systems without their knowledge or permission —**hacking** *n* [**U**]

**hacking cough** /ˌˌ ˈ/ *n* a repeated, often painful, cough with a rough unpleasant sound

**hacking jack-et** /ˌˌ ˌ/ *n BrE* a special **JACKET** worn when riding a horse

**hack-les** /ˈhækəlz/ *n* [**P**] **1** the long feathers or hairs on the back of the neck of certain birds and animals, which stand up straight in times of danger **2 make someone's 'hackles rise** to make someone feel very angry: *His insensitive remarks about foreigners made her hackles rise.* | *I could feel my hackles rising as I watched the President being interviewed on TV.*

**hack-ney** /ˈhækni/ *n* a horse of a breed which lifts its feet very high as it steps

**Hackney** a **BOROUGH** of **N London**

**hackney car-riage** /ˌˌ ˌ/ *n* **1** a horse-drawn carriage used for hire, esp. formerly **2 also hackney cab** /ˌˌ ˌ/ —*fml or tech* a taxi

**hack-neyed** /ˈhæknɪd/ *adj derog* (of a phrase, statement, etc.) meaningless because used and repeated too often; **TRITE**: *hackneyed phrases/remarks*

**hack-saw** /ˈhæksɔː/ *n* a tool (**SAW**) that has a fine-toothed blade and is used esp. for cutting metal —see picture at **TOOL**

**hack-work** /ˈhækwɜːk/ -wɜːrk/ *n* [**U**] *derog* uninteresting work, esp. writing, done to earn money and not because one likes it

**had** /d, əd, həd; strong həd/ **1 past tense & participle of HAVE** —see **NOT (USAGE)** **2 be had** /həd/ *infml* to be tricked or made a fool of: *I've been had! Those eggs I bought are all bad!*

**had-dock** /ˈhædək/ *n haddock* a common fish found in northern seas, used as food

**Ha-des** /ˈheɪdɪz/ (in **CLASSICAL MYTHOLOGY**) the land of the dead; **HELL**

**hadj** /hædʒ/ *n* a **HAIJ**

**had-ji** /ˈhædʒi/ *n* a **HAIJI**

**had-n't** /ˈhædnt/ *short for*: had not: *If I hadn't seen it myself, I'd never have believed it.*

**Ha-dri-an's Wall** /ˌheɪdriənz ˈwɔːl/ a stone wall built across the **N** of England by order of the Roman ruler Hadrian between 122 AD and 128 AD to defend the **N** border of Roman Britain. Part of the wall and some of the forts built along its course can still be seen.

**hae-mo-glo-bin** *BrE* || **hemoglobin** *AmE* /ˌhiːməˈgləʊbɪn/ || ˈhiːməˈgləʊbɪn/ *n* [**U**] a red colouring matter in the blood which contains iron and carries oxygen

**hae-mo-phil-i-a** *BrE* || **hemophilia** *AmE* /ˌhiːməˈfɪliə/ *n* [**U**] *med* a serious disease in which the blood is unable to **CLOT**<sup>2</sup>. The disease affects only males, but is carried by females. It is treatable in some cases.

**hae-mo-phil-i-ac** *BrE* || **hemophiliac** *AmE* /ˌhiːməˈfɪliæk/ *n* a person suffering from haemophilia



**haem-or-rhage**<sup>1</sup> *BrE* || **hemorrhage** *AmE* /'hemərɪdʒ/ *n* [C;U] a flow of blood, esp. a long or large and unexpected one

**haemorrhage**<sup>2</sup> *BrE* || **hemorrhage** *AmE* *v* [I] to have a haemorrhage

**hae-mor-rhoids** *BrE* || **hemorrhoids** *AmE* /'hemərɔɪdʒ/ *n* [P] *med* or *fml* swollen BLOOD VESSELS (=blood-carrying tubes) at the ANUS (=the opening at the lower end of the bowel) —see also PILES

**haft** /hɑːft/ || **hæft** /n *tech* the handle of an AXE or of some long-handled weapons

**hag** /hæg/ *n* *derog* an ugly or unpleasant woman, esp. one who is old and is thought to be evil

**hag-gard** /'hægəd/ || -ərd/ *adj* having lines on the face and hollow places around the eyes and in the cheeks (as if) through tiredness, lack of sleep, or anxiety: *The haggard faces of the rescued miners showed what they had suffered.*

**Haggard, Sir H Rider** (1856–1925) an English writer remembered esp. for his adventure story *King Solomon's Mines*

**hag-gis** /'hægɪs/ *n* [C;U] a food eaten in Scotland, made from the heart and other organs of a sheep cut up and boiled inside a skin made from the sheep's stomach. Haggis is typically eaten with boiled TURNIPS and potatoes, known in Scotland as "neeps and tatties". It is considered to be typical Scottish food.

**hag-gle** /'hægəl/ *v* [I (over, about)] to argue, esp. in an attempt to fix a price: *He haggled over the price of the horse.* | *It's not the custom to haggle in British and American shops.*

**hag-i-og-ra-phy** /,hægi'ɒgrəfi/ || -'ɑːg-/ *n* [C;U] **1** (a book giving) information about the lives of SAINTS or other holy people **2** (a) BIOGRAPHY which is too admiring or favourable towards its subject

**Hag-man** /'hægmən/, **Lar-ry** /'læri/ (1930– ) an American film actor, known esp. for acting the part of J R Ewing in the SOAP OPERA *Dallas*

**hag-rid-den** /'hægrɪdən/ *adj* *lit* continually worried by something as if by a bad dream

**Hague** /heɪg/, **The** a city in the Netherlands where that country's government is based

**ha-ha**<sup>1</sup> /'hɑː-/ *interj* (a shout of laughter) —see also AHA, HA

**ha-ha**<sup>2</sup> /'hɑː-/ *n* **ha-has** (a wall or fence set in) a ditch used to divide property without interrupting the view

**Haight-Ash-bu-ry** /,heɪt 'æʃbəri/ a part of San Francisco, California, where the HIPPIE movement began in the 1960s

**hai-ku** /'haɪkuː/ *n* **haiku** a type of Japanese poem with three lines consisting of 5, 7 and 5 SYLLABLES

**hail**<sup>1</sup> /heɪl/ *n* **1** [U] frozen rain drops which fall as little hard balls of ice —see RAIN (USAGE) **2** [S+of] a number of things which strike suddenly with violence, causing pain or damage: *a hail of bullets* | *a hail of abuse*

**hail**<sup>2</sup> *v* [it+I] (of hail) to fall: *It's hailing outside.*

**hail**<sup>3</sup> *v* [T] to call out to or try to attract the attention of: *An old friend hailed me from the other side of the street.* | *We waited until they were within hailing distance, and then shouted to attract their attention.* | *The hotel doorman will hail a cab for you.*

**hail** sthg./sbdy *as* sthg. *phr v* [T often pass.] to recognize and describe as (something good): *Her latest book is being hailed as a masterpiece.*

**hail from** sthg. *phr v* [T no pass.] *esp.* *pomp* or *humor* to come from; have as one's home: *She hails from Liverpool.*

**Hai-le Se-las-sie** /,haɪli sɪ'lesi/ (1892–1975) the EMPEROR of Ethiopia from 1930 to 1974, who is remembered esp. for having modernized his country. He was removed from power by his army in 1974 but is still important to his followers, called RASTAFARIANS, who regard him as a god. He is also sometimes called **Ras Tafari**, the Lion of Judah.

**hail-fel-low-well-met** /'haɪfəl'wɛlmɛt/ *adj* [F] *old-fash*, *sometimes derog* (of a person or their behaviour) very cheerful and friendly from the moment of greeting; HEARTY

**Hail Ma-ry** /'haɪmə'ri/ a special Roman Catholic prayer to Mary, the mother of Jesus, to ask for her help

**hail-stone** /'heɪlstəʊn/ *n* a small ball of hail

**hail-storm** /'heɪlstɔːm/ || -ɔːrm/ *n* a storm when hail falls heavily

**hair** /heə/ *n* **1** [C] a fine threadlike growth from the skin of a person or animal: *The cat has left white hairs all over my black sweater.* | *I found a woman's hair on my husband's jacket.* —see picture at HEAD **2** [U] a mass of these growths, esp. on the head of human beings: *She brushed her hair.* | *a woman with curly blonde hair* | *I'm going to the hairdresser to have/get my hair cut.* —compare FUR<sup>1</sup>; see also HEAD OF HAIR and see picture at HEAD **3** *get in someone's hair* *infml* to annoy someone, esp. by being continually present: *I find the children get in my hair during the school holidays.* **4** *I'm washing my hair* *humor* a phrase supposedly used by women as an excuse to stay at home when they do not want to go out with someone **5** *keep one's hair on* [*usu. imperative*] *infml* to remain calm; not get annoyed **6** *let one's hair down* *infml* to behave freely and perhaps wildly, esp. after a period of controlled behaviour: *You should have seen the teachers letting their hair down at the school dance.* **7** *make someone's hair stand on end* to make someone very afraid; TERRIFY someone **8** *not turn a hair* to show no fear, worry, or surprise; remain calm: *When we told him there were 500 plates to be washed, he didn't turn a hair, but just got on and did them.* **9** *the/a hair of the dog (that bit you)* *humor* an alcoholic drink taken in the morning because it is said to cure illness caused by drinking too much alcohol the night before **10** *-haired* /heəd/ || heərd/ having hair of the stated length, colour, type, etc.: *long-haired* | *fair-haired* —see also **split hairs** (SPLIT<sup>1</sup>), **tear one's hair (out)** (TEAR<sup>2</sup>)

**Hair** a very successful MUSICAL of the 1960s. It included scenes which showed naked people, and was very shocking to a lot of people at that time.

**hair-breadth** /'heəbredθ, -bretθ/ || 'heər-/ *n* HAIR'S BREADTH

**hair-brush** /'heəbrʌʃ/ || 'heər-/ *n* a brush used for the hair to make it smooth and to get out dirt —see picture at BRUSH

**hair-cut** /'heəkʌt/ || 'heər-/ *n* **1** an occasion of having the hair cut: *I'm going for a haircut.* **2** the style the hair is cut in: *Do you like my new haircut?*

**hair-do** /'heəduː/ || 'heər-/ *n* **-dos** *infml* *old-fash* in *BrE* **1** a woman's HAIRSTYLE **2** an occasion of a woman having her hair shaped into a style: *A hairdo costs such a lot nowadays.*

**hair-dress-er** /'heə,dresə/ || 'heər-/ *n* a person who shapes people's hair into a style by cutting, setting (SET<sup>1</sup> (10)), etc., and who *usu.* works in a shop (**hairdresser's**): *I've got an appointment at the hairdresser's.* —compare BARBER —ing *n* [U]

**hair-dry-er**, **-drier** /'heə,draɪə/ || 'heər-/ *n* a machine that blows out hot air for drying hair

**hair-grip** /'heəgrɪp/ || 'heər-/ *BrE* || **bobby pin** *AmE* — *n* a flat HAIRPIN with ends pressed close together —see picture at PIN

**hair-less** /'heələs/ || 'heər-/ *adj* with no hair; BALD

**hair-line** /'heəlaɪn/ || 'heər-/ *n* **1** the line around the head, esp. above the forehead, where the hair starts growing **2** a very thin line or crack: *She had a hairline fracture (=a very slight one) of her forearm.*

**hair-net** /'heənɛt/ || 'heər-/ *n* a net, worn esp. by women, which stretches over the hair to keep it in place

**hair-piece** /'heəpiːs/ || 'heər-/ *n* *often euph* a piece of false hair used to make one's own hair seem thicker

**hair-pin** /'heə,pɪn/ || 'heər-/ *n* a pin made of wire bent into a U-shape to hold long hair in position on the head —see picture at PIN

**hairpin bend** /'haɪpɪn'bend/ *n* a very sharp U-shaped curve in a road, as when going up a steep hill: *The truck nearly came off the road on a hairpin bend in the mountains.*

**hair-raising** /'haɪ'reɪzɪŋ/ *adj* causing a mixture of fear and surprise: *a hair-raising experience* | *He told us some hair-raising stories about his exploits as a mountaineer.*

**hair-re-stor-er** /'haɪ'reɪstə/ || 'heər-/ *n* [C;U] (a) substance or liquid that is supposed to make hair grow again

**hair's breadth** /'heə'sbreɪð/ || also **hairbreadth** — *n* [S] a very short distance: *The car came careering round the bend and missed us by a hair's breadth; it came within a hair's breadth of hitting us.*

**hair shirt** /'haɪ'sɜːt/ *n* a shirt made of rough uncomfortable



cloth containing hair, worn formerly by religious people, esp. MONKS, to punish themselves

**hair slide** /'hɜːslɪd/ also **slide** BrE || **barrette** AmE— *n* a small often decorative fastener to keep a girl's or woman's hair in place

**hair-splitting** /'hɜːsplɪtɪŋ/ *n* [U] *derog* the act or habit of paying too much attention to small unnecessary differences and unimportant points of detail, esp. in argument —see also **split hairs** (SPLIT<sup>1</sup>)

**hair-spray** /'heəsprɛɪ/ || 'heər-/ *n* [U] a transparent or coloured substance used by women to keep their hairstyle in place, usu. sprayed (SPRAY<sup>1</sup>) from an AEROSOL

**hair-spring** /'heəsprɪŋ/ || 'heər-/ *n* a delicate spring inside a watch that helps to make the watch run evenly

**hair-style** /'heəstɑɪl/ || 'heər-/ *n* the style in which someone's hair has been cut or shaped

**hair trigger** /'hɜːtrɪɡər/ || 'hɜːtrɪ-/ *n* a TRIGGER on a gun that needs only a very gentle pressure to fire the gun: (fig.) *He's got a hair-trigger temper.* (=very quickly and easily gets angry)

**hair-y** /'heəri/ *adj* **1** having a lot of body hair: *a hairy man | hairy legs | a hairy chest* **2** *infml* frighteningly or excitingly dangerous: *It was rather hairy driving down that narrow road in the dark.* —**iness** *n* [U]

**Hai-ti** /'heɪti/ a country in the Caribbean, on the western third of the island of Hispaniola; capital Port au Prince; population 5,609,000 (1989) —**Haitian** /'heɪʃən/ *n, adj*

**haj**, **hadj** /hædʒ/ *n* a PILGRIMAGE (=religious journey) to Mecca, which all Muslims aim to make at least once in their lifetime

**haj-ji**, **hadji** /'hædʒi/ *n* (used as a title for) a Muslim who has made a haj

**hake** /heɪk/ *n* **hake** or **hakes** a sea fish used as food

**ha-kim** /hɑː'kɪm/ *n* a Muslim doctor

**ha-lal** /hə'læl/ *n* [U] meat from an animal that has been killed in the manner approved of by Muslim law

**hal-berd** /'hælbərd/ || -bərd/ *n* a weapon with a blade on a long handle, used in former times

**hal-cy-on days** /,hælsɪən 'deɪz/ *n* [P] *esp. lit* a time of peace and happiness: *She recalled with a wistful smile the halcyon days of her youth. | the halcyon days of full employment*

**hale** /heɪl/ *adj* **hale** and **heart-y** /,hɜː'heɪt-ɪ/ (esp. of an old person) very healthy and active

**Hale, Na-than** /'neɪθən/ (1755–76) an American nationalist who was hanged by the British as a SPY during the American War of Independence. He is famous for saying "I regret (=am sorry) that I have but one life to give for my country."

**Ha-ley** /'heɪli/, **Bill** (1927–81) an American popular music singer whose record *Rock Around the Clock* first made ROCK 'N' ROLL music popular in the 1950s

**half**<sup>1</sup> /hɑːf/ || hæf/ *n*, *pron* **halves** /hɑːvz/ || hævz/ **1** either of the two equal parts into which something is or could be divided; ½; 50%: *Half of 50 is 25. | (One) half of the children study chemistry, (the other) half study Spanish. | Almost half of all road accidents are caused by drunkenness. | The company has 60 microcomputers but only half are used regularly. | She bought a kilo and a half (=1½ kilos) of rice. | He cut the cake in half. (=into two equal parts) | You haven't heard/don't know (the) half of it yet! (=the most surprising or shocking part has still to be told) **2** either of two parts into which something is divided: *He's in the bottom half of the class. | He broke the chocolate in two and took the bigger half for himself. | in the latter half of the 20th century* **3** either of two equal periods into which a sports match is divided: *England scored in the second half.* **4** the number ½: *Three halves makes 1½.* **5** (*pl.* also **halves**) BrE half a PINT, esp. of beer: *a half of lager | A pint and two halves, please.* **6** (*pl.* also **halves**) BrE a child's ticket: *One and two halves to Waterloo, please.* **7** (*pl.* also **halves**) a HALFBACK **8** and a half *infml* of very good quality: *That was a meal and a half!* **9** by halves in part; incompletely; in a HALF-HEARTED way: *I recommended that wine to him, and he bought ten cases of it; he never does anything by halves!* **10** go halves *infml* to share something equally: *Since it was so expensive, we agreed to go halves in/on it. (=share the cost equally) | I'll go halves with you.* **11** half past half an*

hour later than the stated hour: *He went out at half past nine. (=9:30)* —see also OTHER HALF

**half**<sup>2</sup> *predeterminer, adj* [A] **1** being ½ in amount: *Half the boys are already here. | I've lived there half my life. | I waited half an hour/a (full) half hour. | She bought half a kilo of rice. | She ran in the half-mile race. | They stood in a half circle. | He bought half a dozen (=six) apples. | She gave a sort of half smile. (=not quite a smile) | The buses come every hour on the half hour. (=at 1:30, 2:30, 3:30, etc.)* **2** BrE *infml* half past (the stated time): *He went out at half nine. (=9:30)* —see HALF<sup>1</sup> (11) **3** half a loaf is better than no bread saying a small amount of something is better than none at all **4** half the battle the biggest part of the difficulty (finished): *Persuading her it's a good idea is half the battle; once she's convinced, she'll do a good job.*

▷ USAGE **1** When 1½ is said as *one and a half* it is plural: *One and a half months have passed since I saw him.* But when it is said as *a ... and a half* it is usually singular: *A month and a half has passed since I saw him.* **2** In American English some people think it is better to say *a half mile* than *half a mile*. <

**half**<sup>3</sup> *adv* **1** partly; not completely: *These potatoes are only half cooked. | She looked half starved. (=very hungry) | He was half under the bed, with his legs sticking out. | a half empty bottle* **2** to an equal degree: *She was half laughing, half crying.* **3** half and half ½ one and ½ the other; two equal parts of two things: *"Is it made with milk or water?" "Half and half".* —see also HALF-AND-HALF **4** half as much again one-and-a-half times as much **5** not half BrE *infml* a very (much); to a great degree: *It wasn't half good! (=it was very good) | It isn't half windy today! (=it's very windy) | He didn't half complain! | "Was she annoyed?" "Not half!"* **b** (to be) not at all: *The food's not half bad. (=it's quite good)* **6** not half as not nearly as: *I didn't feel half as cold once they'd put the heating on.*

**half a crown** /,hɜːf 'krɒn/ also **half crown**— *n* half crowns (in Britain before 1971) a large silver-coloured coin, eight of which made £1 (a pound)

**half-and-half** /,hɜːf 'ænd 'hɜːf/ *n* **1** [C;U] BrE a drink made of equal amounts of bitter beer and MILD (=not strong in taste) beer: *They were drinking half-and-half. | A half-and-half, please.* **2** [U] AmE a mixture of cream and milk, used for tea and coffee

**half-arsed** /,hɜːf 'ɑːst-ɪ/ BrE || -assed AmE *adj sl, not polite* **1** not good enough and not producing a good result: *he made a half-arsed attempt to clean up the mess he had made* **2** stupid

**half-back** /'hɜːfbæk/ || 'hæf-/ also **half**— *n* **1** (in British football) a player who plays in the middle of the field, sometimes attacking and sometimes defending **2** (in American football) a player who at the start of play is behind the front line of players at the right or left of the FULLBACK

**half-baked** /,hɜːf 'beɪk-/ *adj infml* (esp. of an idea, suggestion, etc.) stupid because not properly planned or thought about: *Another of her half-baked schemes!*

**half board** /,hɜːf 'bɔːd/ *n* [U] *esp. BrE* (in lodgings, hotels, etc.) the providing of a bed and either the midday meal or the evening meal as well as breakfast —compare FULL BOARD

**half-breed** /'hɜːf 'breɪd/ *n, adj taboo* (a person) with parents of different races, esp. with one white parent and one Native American parent

**half-broth-er** /'hɜːf 'brʌðər/ *n* a brother related through one parent only

**half-caste** /'hɜːf 'kɑːst/ *n, adj usu. taboo* (a person) with parents of different races

**half cock** /,hɜːf 'kɒk/ *n* go off (at) half cock (esp. of a planned event) to fail to satisfy expected standards because of poor preparation, bad luck, etc.

**half crown** /,hɜːf 'krɒn/ *n* HALF A CROWN

**half-hearted** /,hɜːf 'hɜːtəd/ || 'hɜː- / *adj* (of a person or action) showing little effort and no real interest: *The children made a half-hearted attempt to tidy their room.* —~ly *adv* —~ness *n* [U]

**half-hol-i-day** /,hɜːf 'hɒlɪdeɪ/ || **half-day** /'hɜːf 'deɪ/ AmE— *n* half a day which is free from school, studies, etc.

**half-length** /,hɜːf 'lɛŋθ/ || 'hɜː- / *adj* for or of the upper half of a person: *a half-length portrait/coat*



**half-life** /'hɔːlfaɪf/ *n* the time it takes for half the atoms in a RADIOACTIVE substance to decay

**half-light** /'hɔːlfaɪt/ *n* [(the) U] a dull greyish light like the light at sunset or in a badly-lit room

**half-mast** /'hɔːlmɑːst/ *n* [U] 1 a point near the middle of a flagpole where the flag flies as a sign of sorrow, esp. when an important political leader has died: *All the flags were at half-mast when the king died.* 2 (at) **half-mast** *humor, esp. BrE* (of full-length trousers) too short, so that the ankles can be seen

**half mea-sures** /'hɔːlmɪʒəz/ *n* [P] actions or methods that are not firm or effective enough to deal with a difficult situation: *If we want to stop drug addiction it's no use trying half measures.*

**half moon** /'hɔːlmun/ *n* 1 the shape of the moon seen when half the side facing the Earth is showing 2 something of this shape —compare FULL MOON, NEW MOON

**half note** /'hɔːlnot/ *n* *AmE* for MINIM —see picture at NOTATION

**Hal-fords** /'hælfɔːdz/ one of a group of British shops which sell articles connected with cars and bicycles

**half-pence** /'heɪpəns/ *n* [P] 1 *pl. of HALFPENNY*<sup>1,2</sup> 2 a small amount of money: *It only costs a few halfpence.* —see also THREE-HALFPENCE

**half-penny** /'heɪpni/ *n* **halfpennies** or **halfpence** 1 (in Britain in the past) a very small BRONZE coin, two of which made a PENNY; ½p 2 **not have two halfpennies to rub together** *BrE infml* to be very poor

**half-penny-worth** /'heɪpniwəθ/ also **hap'orth** — *n* **halfpennyworth** [(of)] *old-fash BrE* 1 [C] an amount of something bought for a HALFPENNY<sup>2</sup>: *three halfpennyworth of sweets* 2 [S] a small amount: *If he had a halfpennyworth of sense, he'd accept their offer.*

**half-pint** /'hɔːlpɪnt/ *n* 1 a measure for liquids that is half of a PINT: *The recipe requires a half-pint of milk.* 2 *infml* a short or small person, esp. one who is considered unimportant: *A half-pint like your little brother won't be of any use in our team.*

**half-sis-ter** /'hɔːlsɪstə/ *n* a sister related through one parent only

**half term** /'hɔːltɜːm/ *n* [U] (in Britain) a short holiday, usu. two or three days, in the middle of a school TERM

**half-tim-bered** /'hɔːltɪmbəd/ *adj* of an old style of house building with the wood of the frame showing in the walls, esp. the outer walls

**half time** /'hɔːltɪm/ *n* [U] the short period of rest between two parts of a game, such as a football match: *The referee blew his whistle for half time.* | *They were leading by two goals at half time.* —see also FULL TIME

**half-tone** /'hɔːftəʊn/ *n* 1 [C; U] (the method of printing) a picture made from a black-and-white photograph, with varying shades shown by dots 2 [C] also **half step** — *AmE* for SEMITONE

**half-truth** /'hɔːltrʊθ/ *n* *derog* or *euph* a statement that is only partly true or is nearly a lie: *His replies were full of evasions and half-truths.*

**half vol-ley** /'hɔːlvɒli/ *n* 1 (esp. in tennis) a stroke in which the ball is hit as it BOUNCES 2 (in cricket) a ball that can easily be hit by the BATSMAN as it bounces

**half-way** /'hɔːfweɪ/ *adj, adv* 1 at the middle point between two things: *The runners reached the halfway mark in the race after 49 seconds.* [+adv/prep] *Oxford is halfway between London and Stratford-on-Avon.* | *I was halfway to the office when I realized I'd forgotten my briefcase.* | *She'd got halfway through the book by lunchtime.* 2 by a small or incomplete amount: *These government measures only go halfway towards solving the problem.* —see also **meet someone halfway** (MEET<sup>1</sup>)

**halfway house** /'hɔːfweɪhəʊs/ *n* 1 [S (between)] something that is halfway between two other things, and loses some of the qualities of both: *It's not really a history and it's not really a guidebook — it's a sort of halfway house.* 2 [C] a home for former prisoners, MENTAL PATIENTS, etc. who can stay for a limited time to get used to life outside prison, hospital, etc.

**half-wit** /'hɔːfwɪt/ *n* *derog* a weak-minded or stupid person — ~ted /'hɔːfweɪtɪd/ *adj* — ~tedly /'hɔːfweɪtɪdli/ *adv*

**hal-i-but** /'hælɪbʊt/ *n* -but or -buts a very large flat sea fish used as food

**Hal-i-fax** /'hælɪfæks/ 1 a town in W Yorkshire, N England, known, esp. in the past, for its wool industry 2 a port

in Nova Scotia, SE Canada, on the Atlantic coast

**Halifax** [the] a British BUILDING SOCIETY, branches of which are found in many towns and cities in Britain

**hal-i-to-sis** /'hæljɪ'təʊsɪs/ *n* [U] a condition in which the breath from the mouth smells bad; a more formal word for bad breath

**hall** /hɔːl/ *n* 1 also **hallway** *esp. AmE* — the passage just inside the entrance of a house, from which the other rooms and usu. the stairs are reached: *Hang your coat up in the hall.* 2 also **hallway** *AmE* a CORRIDOR in a house or other building 3 a large room in which meetings, dances, etc., can be held —see also CITY HALL, TOWN HALL 4 (in a college or university) a *esp. BrE* the room where all the members eat together: *to dine in hall* b a HALL OF RESIDENCE: *Do you live in hall or in lodgings?* —see also MUSIC HALL

**Hal-lé** /'hæleɪ/, **Sir Charles** (1819–95) a German PIANIST and CONDUCTOR who came to live in Britain and set up the **Hallé Orchestra** in Manchester (1857)

**hal-le-lu-ja** /'hæljɪ'lʊdʒə/ also **alleluia** — *interj, n* (a song, shout, etc., that is an expression of) praise, joy, and thanks to God

**Hallelujah Cho-rus** /'hæljɪ'lʊdʒə/ [the] a joyful part of the *Messiah*, a long piece of religious music with singing, written in the 18th century by Handel

**Hal-ley's com-et** /'hæljɪz'kɒmɪt, 'heɪl-||-'kɔːz/ a bright COMET that moves around the sun in a period of about 76 years (named after Edmund Halley (1656–1742), an English ASTRONOMER (=person who studies the stars))

**hal-liard** /'hæljəd/ *n* a HALYARD

**hall-mark** /'hɔːlmɑːk/ *n* 1 a mark made on objects of precious metal to prove that they are silver or gold 2 [(of)] a particular quality, way of behaving, etc. that is very typical of a certain person or thing: *Clear expression is the hallmark of good writing.* | *This fascination with small details is one of the hallmarks of her painting.*

**hallmark**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T] to mark with a hallmark: *hallmarked silver*

**hal-lo** /hə'ləʊ, he-, hæ-/ *interj, n* -los *BrE* for HELLO

**Hall of Fame** /'hɔːləʊfəmeɪ/ *n* **Halls of Fame** *AmE* 1 a group of people considered to have achieved greatness in a particular sport or activity: *He's in the baseball Hall of Fame.* 2 a building where the lives and achievements of such a group of people are recorded: *Be sure to visit the Country Music Hall of Fame.*

**hall of res-i-dence** /'hɔːləʊrɪdʒəns/ also **hall** *BrE* || **dormitory** *AmE* — *n* a building belonging to a college or university where many students live and sleep

**hal-low** /'hæləʊ/ *v* [T often pass.] 1 *fml* to set apart as holy: *Murderers were not buried in hallowed ground.* 2 **Hal-lowed be thy name** a phrase from the LORD'S PRAYER

**Hal-low-eeen** || **Hallowe'en** *AmE* /'hæləʊ'iːn/ the night of October 31, when it was formerly believed that the spirits of the dead appeared

► **CULTURAL NOTE** Hallowe'en is celebrated by children in both Britain and the US. They dress up as WITCHES, GHOSTS, etc. and sometimes make lamps from hollowed-out PUMPKINS. Esp. in the US, children go out in groups and knock on people's doors, where they are expected by most people. The children call out "trick or treat!" and the person at the door gives each child a treat, usu. a sweet. Children and older people often have Hallowe'en parties, where they play games, e.g. trying to catch floating apples with their teeth. ◀

**hal-lu-ci-nate** /hə'lʊsɪˌneɪt/ *v* [I] to see things or experience things which are not real: *As soon as the drug took effect, she started hallucinating.*

**hal-lu-ci-na-tion** /hə'lʊsɪˌneɪʃən/ *n* [C; U] (the experience of seeing or feeling) something that is imagined although it is not really there, often as the result of a drug or an illness of the mind

**hal-lu-ci-na-to-ry** /hə'lʊsɪˌnətəri/ *adj fml* causing or like a hallucination: *a hallucinatory image/experience*

**hal-lu-ci-no-gen-ic** /hə'lʊsɪˌnɒdʒenɪk/ *adj* causing hallucination: *hallucinogenic drugs*

**hall-way** /'hɔːlweɪ/ *n* *esp. AmE* for HALL (1)

**ha-lo** /'heɪləʊ/ *n* -loes or -los 1 a golden circle representing light around the heads of holy people (SAINTS) in religious paintings 2 a bright circle of light, such as that seen around the sun or moon in misty weather



**Hals** /hæls || ha:ls/, **Frans** /fræns || frɑ:ns/ (?1580–1666) a Dutch painter known for his **PORTRAITS**, esp. the *Laughing Cavalier* – see colour picture on page 1016

**halt**<sup>1</sup> /hɔ:lt/ *v* [I;T] *rather fml* to (cause to) stop: “Halt! Who goes there?” shouted the sentry. | The train was halted by work on the line. | government measures designed to halt the decline in our car industry.

**halt**<sup>2</sup> *n* 1 [S] a stop or pause: The car came to a halt just in time to prevent an accident. | Production was brought to a halt by an unofficial strike. | It's about time we called a halt to (=stopped) all this senseless arguing. 2 [C] *BrE* a small country railway station without proper buildings: country halts

**halt**<sup>3</sup> *n* [the+P] *old use* people who cannot walk properly; those who are **LAME**

**hal-ter** /'hɔ:ltə/ *n* 1 a rope or leather band fastened round a horse's head, esp. to lead it 2 an upper garment for women that is tied behind the neck and across the back, leaving the arms and back uncovered 3 *old use or lit* a piece of rope for hanging criminals

**hal-ter-neck** /'hɔ:ltənək||-tər-/ *adj, n* [A;C] (a garment, esp. a dress) that leaves the wearer's back and arms uncovered and is held in place by a narrow band of material that is tied behind the neck

**halt-ing** /'hɔ:ltɪŋ/ *adj* stopping and starting as if uncertain: a halting voice | halting steps – ~ly *adv*

**halve** /hɑ:v||hæv/ *v* [T] 1 to reduce by half: By introducing robots we've managed to halve the time it takes to assemble a car. 2 to divide into halves: to halve an apple

**halves** /hɑ:vz||hævz/ *pl. of* **HALF**

**hal-yard, halliard** /'hæljəd||-jərd/ *n tech* a rope used to raise or lower a flag or sail

**ham**<sup>1</sup> /hæm/ *n* 1 [C;U] (meat from) the upper part of a pig's leg preserved with salt or smoke for use as food: two slices of ham | ham and eggs for breakfast | a ham sandwich | two whole hams – compare **BACON**, **GAMMON**; see **MEAT** (**USAGE**) 2 [C] the upper part of the leg 3 [C] an actor whose acting is unnatural, esp. with too much movement and expression: a ham actor 4 [C] someone who receives and sends radio messages using their own apparatus: a radio ham

**ham**<sup>2</sup> *v -mm-* [I;T (UP)] to perform or tell unnaturally or wildly, like a ham actor: It was a good script but they spoiled it by hamming it up.

**ham-burg-er** /'hæmbɜ:gə||-zɜ:/ also **burger**– *n* 1 [C] a flat round cake of finely cut **BEEF**, cooked and eaten in a round bread **ROLL**<sup>1</sup> (2) 2 [U] *AmE* for **MINCE**<sup>2</sup> (1)

**ham-fist-ed** /,·'···/ also **ham-hand-ed**– *adj infml derog* awkward in using the hands; **CLUMSY**: (fig.) the government's ham-fisted approach to dealing with the strike

**Ham-il-ton** /'hæmɪltən/, **Al-ex-an-der** /,æliɡ'zɑ:ndə||-zæn-/ (1755?–1804) one of the first politicians of the US, whose ideas influenced the Constitution. His picture is on the American 10-dollar **BILL**<sup>1</sup> (3).

**ham-let** /'hæmɪlt/ *n* a small village

**Hamlet** one of the most famous plays written by William Shakespeare. The chief character, Prince Hamlet of Denmark, is often taken as an example of a thoughtful, sad, self-questioning person. He is often pictured holding a **SKULL**. There are many well-known phrases from the play, but the most famous are “To be or not to be, that is the question” and “Alas, poor Yorick”. – see also **OPHELIA**, **YORICK**; see picture at Laurence **OLIVIER** and see colour picture on page 1146

**ham-mer**<sup>1</sup> /'hæmə/ *n* 1 a tool with a heavy metal head for forcing nails into wood, or for striking things to break them or move them 2 a part of a machine or instrument made to hit another part, e.g. in a piano or gun – see picture at **GUN** 3 *tech* one of the bones in the ear 4 *be/go at it hammer and tongs* *BrE infml* a with great force **b** (of two or more people) to fight or argue very hard 5 *come under the hammer* to be offered for sale at an **AUCTION**: Her art collection came under the hammer yesterday. 6 *throwing the hammer* a sport in which competitors throw a metal ball fixed to a handle as far as possible

**hammer**<sup>2</sup> *v* 1 [I;T+obj+adv/prep] to use a hammer on (something), esp. so as to force it into a desired position: I wish they'd stop hammering. | Hammer the nails in. | Hammer the nail into the wall. | The back of the car got

dented and I'm trying to hammer it back into shape. 2 [I (AWAY, at);T] to hit repeatedly: The police hammered at the door. 3 [T] *infml* to defeat beyond any doubt, by fighting or in a game: We really hammered the other team/gave them a real hammering. 4 [I (AWAY, at)] to keep working at something: I hammered away at the problem all afternoon.

**hammer** sthg. ↔ *in phr v* [T] to force understanding of (something) by repeating: The teacher has been trying to hammer in the facts. | I've been trying to hammer into them the importance of writing clearly.

**hammer out** *phr v* [T] 1 (**hammer out** sthg.) to talk about in detail and come to a decision about: We've got to get together and try to hammer out a solution. 2 (**hammer** sthg. ↔ **out**) to remove by hammering: Can you hammer out the dent in the side of my car?

**Hammer, Ar-mand** /'ɑ:mənd||'ɑ:r-/ (1899–1990) an American businessman who had strong trade connections with the former Soviet Union

**hammer and sick-le** /,···'···/ [the] the sign of a hammer crossing a **SICKLE**, used as a representation of **COMMUNISM**: For how much longer will the hammer and sickle (=the flag of the former USSR) fly over the republics?

**Hammer House of Horror** /,···'···/ [the] a name for the set of **HORROR FILMS** produced by a film company called Hammer Film Productions during the 1950s and 60s

**Ham-mer-smith and Ful-ham** /,hæməsmɪθ ənd 'fuləm||,hæmə-/ a **BOROUGH** in W London

**Ham-mer-stein** /'hæməstəɪn||-mə-/ , **Oscar** (1895–1960) an American songwriter who is famous for his work with Richard Rogers on **MUSICALS** such as *South Pacific* and *The Sound of Music*

**ham-mock** /'hæmək/ *n* a long piece of strong cloth or net which can be hung up by the ends to sleep in

**Hamp-den Park** /,hæmdən 'pɑ:k||-'pɑ:rk/ a football **STADIUM** in Glasgow where the Scottish Cup Final is played

**ham-per**<sup>1</sup> /'hæmpə/ *v* [T] to cause difficulty in movement or activity: The search was hampered by appalling weather conditions.

**hamper**<sup>2</sup> *n* 1 *esp BrE* a large basket with a lid, often used for carrying food: a picnic hamper 2 *AmE* for **LAUNDRY BASKET**

**Hamp-shire** /'hæmpʃə/ a **COUNTY** of S England, bordering on the English Channel

**Hamp-stead** /'hæmpstɛd, -sted/ an area of N London, about five miles NW of the City. Hampstead is an expensive place to live and is considered a desirable area.

**Hamp-ton** /'hæmptən/, **Li-o-nel** /'laɪənəl/ (1913– ) an American **JAZZ** musician, singer, and bandleader who played the piano, drums, and **VIBRAPHONE** and was known for his exciting, lively performances

**Hamp-ton Court** /,···'···/ a large house in SW London, begun by Cardinal Wolsey in 1514 but taken over by King Henry VIII and used as a royal palace until the 18th century

**ham-ster** /'hæmstə/ *n* a small animal with pockets (**POUCHES**) in its cheeks for storing food, kept as a pet

**ham-string**<sup>1</sup> /'hæm,striŋ/ *v -strung* /,straŋ/ [T] to make (a person or group) ineffective or powerless; **CRIPPLE**<sup>2</sup> (2): a government hamstrung by lack of funds

**hamstring**<sup>2</sup> *n* a cordlike **TENDON** at the back of the leg, joining a muscle to a bone

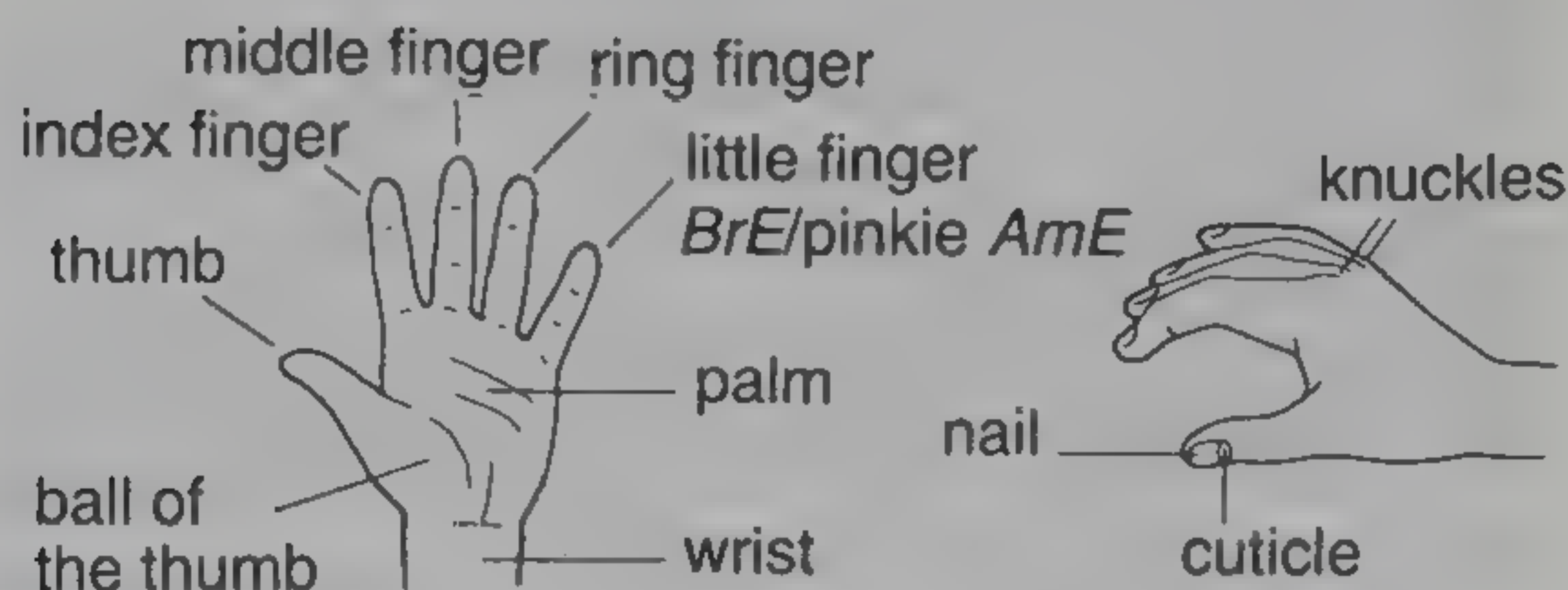
**Han-cock** /'hænkɒk||-kɑ:k/, **John** (1737–93) an American leader in the American Revolutionary War, remembered most for being the first to sign the Declaration of Independence. He was later the first governor of the state of Massachusetts. – see also **JOHN HANCOCK**

**Hancock, Tony** (1924–1968) a British **COMEDIAN**, famous esp. for his show called *Hancock's Half Hour* on radio and television

**hand**<sup>1</sup> /hænd/ *n* 1 [C] either of the movable parts at the end of a person's arm, including the fingers: She had a gun in her hand. (=she was holding a gun) | I've got a nasty cut in/on my left hand. | I held it in the palm of my hand. | The two lovers were holding hands (with each other). | He led the child by the hand. | She's very good with her hands. (=good at making things, mending things, etc.) | Wait until I get my hands on him! (=catch him) | (fig.) I can't do it today – I've got my hands full.



## hand



(=I'm very busy) | (fig.) *He asked for her hand in marriage.* (=asked to marry her) | (fig.) *That child needs a firm hand!* (=should be firmly controlled) **2** [C] a pointer or needle on a clock, machine, or measuring instrument: *the second/minute/hour hand* | *the big/little hand* (=children's phrases for the hour/minute hand of a clock) **3** [S] handwriting: *He wrote in a neat hand.* **4** [C] a set of playing cards held by one person in a game: *a good hand* | *a winning hand* **b** a game of cards: *a couple of hands of poker* **5** [C] a unit equal to 0.1 metres, used in measuring a horse's height at the shoulder **6** [C] a sailor on a ship: *All hands on deck!* (=a call for all sailors to come up to deal with some trouble) **7** [C] (usu. in comb.) a worker: *a factory hand* | *a farmhand* | (AmE) *a hired hand on a farm* **8** [C] someone with skill, knowledge, or experience of the stated kind: *BrE I'm a dab hand* (=very skilled) *at making pastry.* | *You don't need to tell her how to do it – she's an old hand at this sort of work.* | *an old China hand who'd lived there and knew it well* **9** [S] encouragement given by clapping (CLAP<sup>1</sup>) the hands; a burst of APPLAUSE: *Let's give the singer a big hand!* **10** [S] help (esp. in the phrase *give/lend a hand to*): *Could you give me a hand with this heavy table, please?* **11** [S (in)] an influence or share in some action or event: *I suspect John had a hand in this.* | *Some observers detected the hand of the Americans in the coup.* (=believed that they influenced or took part in it) **12** [C usu. pl.; U] control, power, or responsibility: *The meeting is getting out of hand – will everybody stop talking at once!* | *The whole affair is now in the hands of the police.* (=they are responsible for dealing with it) | *I've got a lot more free time now that the children are off my hands.* (=I'm no longer responsible for them). | *Several of the border villages have fallen into enemy hands.* (=been taken by the enemy). – compare **out of hand** (HAND<sup>1</sup> (32)) **13** **at first hand** by direct personal experience, or that of another person: *I heard about it at first hand from my neighbour.* | *He's one of the few Westerners who has experienced conditions there at first hand.* – see also **FIRSTHAND** **14** **at hand** rather fml near in time or place: *The great day is at hand.* **15** **at second/third/fourth hand** when passed on through one, two, or three people: *I heard it (at) second hand, when his father, who saw the fire, told my mother, who told me.* – see also **SECOND-HAND** **16** **at someone's hands** from or because of someone: *They suffered terribly at the hands of the invaders.* **17** **bite the hand that feeds you** infml to do something to upset or hurt a person you depend on for money, e.g. your employer **18** **by hand**: **a** by a person, not a machine: *written by hand, not typed or printed* **b** delivered directly from one person to another, not sent through the post **19** **(from) hand to mouth** with only just enough money to live on and nothing for the future: *living from hand to mouth* | *a hand-to-mouth existence* **20** **give someone a free hand** to allow someone to do things in their own way: *The new director has been given a free hand to reorganize the company.* **21** **hand in glove (with)** closely connected or working together (with someone), esp. in something bad **22** **hand in hand**: **a** holding each other's hand (usu. with the left hand of one in the right hand of the other), esp. to show love **b** happening together and closely connected: *Dirt and disease go hand in hand.* | *Dirt goes hand in hand with disease.* **23** **hand over fist** infml very quickly and in large amounts: *making money hand over fist* **24** **in hand** ready or able to be used or done: *money in hand* | *Don't worry: we've still got three days in hand before the work is due.* – compare **take/have in** (HAND<sup>1</sup> (33)) **25** **in good, safe, etc. hands** under someone's good, safe etc. protection or responsibility: *Don't worry about the children – they're in good hands.* | *We left the project in the capable hands of our deputy manager.* **26** **keep one's hand in** to keep one's skill in something by continuing

to practise it **27** **many hands make light work** saying if many people work together, they can do a job quickly **28** **not do a hand's turn** BrE infml derog to do no work **29** **on every hand** lit in all directions; all around **30** **on hand** ready for use or ready when needed: *The nurse will be on hand if you need her.* **31** **on the one/other hand** (used for comparing different things or ideas) as one point in the argument/as an opposite point: *I know this job of mine isn't well paid, but on the other hand I don't have to work long hours.* – see **CONTRARY (USAGE)** **32** **out of hand** (esp. of decisions not to do something) at once and without any further thought: *I refused their offer out of hand.* – compare **getting out of hand** (HAND<sup>1</sup> (12)) **33** **take/have in hand** to bring/have under control: *We have the matter (well) in hand.* | *These young offenders must be taken in hand.* – compare **in hand** (HAND<sup>1</sup> (24)) **34** **(tie/bind someone) hand and foot** (to tie) both the hands and feet of: *The prisoners were tied hand and foot.* | (fig.) *We're bound hand and foot by all the safety regulations.* (=we are unable to act freely) **35** **to hand** within reach **36** **turn one's hand to** to (have the ability to) practise (a skill): *He can turn his hand to any kind of manual work.* **37** **-handed**: /hændɪd/ **a** having a hand or hands of the stated kind or number **b** using the stated hand or number of hands: *right-handed* | *serving left-handed* | *Is left-handedness inherited?* | *a one-handed catch* – see also **RED-HANDED**, **SINGLE HANDED** **38** **-hander** /hændə/ someone using the stated hand: *The players are both left-handers.* – see also **FREE HAND**, **HANDS OFF**, **HANDS-ON**, **HANDS UP**, **OLD HAND**, **SECOND-HAND**, **force someone's hand** (FORCE<sup>2</sup>), **overplay one's hand** (OVERPLAY (2)), **wash one's hands of** (WASH<sup>1</sup>), **win hands down** (WIN<sup>1</sup>)

**hand**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T] **1** to give from one's own hand into someone else's: [+obj+adv/prep] *Will you hand it back when you've finished with it?* | *I handed round the box of chocolates.* (=offered them to everyone) | *She handed her ticket to the ticket-collector.* [+obj(i)+obj(d)] *Hand me that book, please.* | *Will you hand me down that box from the shelf, please?* **2** **(have to) hand it to someone** to (have to) admit someone's success, esp. in the stated activity: *You've got to hand it to him, he's a good talker.*

**hand down** *phr v* [T (to)] **1** [often pass.] **(hand sthg. ↔ down)** to give or leave to people who are younger or live after: *This ring has been handed down in my family for generations.* – see also **HAND-ME-DOWN** **2** **(hand down sthg.)** (of a person or group in a position of power) to declare publicly and officially: *The board of directors will hand down its decision on Monday.* | *The judge handed down heavy sentences to the rioters.* – compare **INHERIT**

**hand sthg. ↔ in** *phr v* [T] to deliver; give by hand: *Please hand in your papers at the end of the exam.*

**hand sthg. ↔ on** *phr v* [T (to)] **1** to give from one person to another (esp. something that can be used by many people one after the other): *Please read this leaflet and hand it on.* **2** to **HAND down** (1)

**hand sthg. ↔ out** *phr v* [T (to)] to give to each member of a group of people; **DISTRIBUTE**: *Hand out the pencils (to everyone in the class).* | (fig.) *He's very good at handing out advice!* (=he gives it too freely) – see also **HANDOUT**

**hand over** *phr v* **1** [T (to)] **(hand sbdy./sthg. ↔ over)** to give into someone else's care or control: *The thief was handed over to the police.* | *I know you've got it – now hand it over!* **2** [I; T (=hand sthg. ↔ over)] to give (power, responsibility, or control of something) to someone else: *The captain was unwilling to hand over the command of his ship (to a younger man).* | *The old government will hand over (power) to its successors next week.* – see also **HANDOVER**

**hand-bag**<sup>1</sup> /'hændbæg/ also **purse**, **pocketbook** AmE – *n* a small bag, esp. one used by a woman to carry her money and personal things in. People sometimes make jokes about women hitting people with their handbags if they are angry. – see picture at **PURSE**

**handbag**<sup>2</sup> *v* to attack, usu. used to describe a woman, esp. a politician, who makes a verbal attack on somebody

**hand-ball** /'hændbɔ:l/ also **racketball** – *n* [U] **1** a game played in the US usu. by two or four players, where a ball (a **handball**) is hit against a wall by the hand – compare **FIVES** **2** (in football) the offence of touching the ball with one's hand



**hand-bill** /'hænd,bɪl/ *n* a small printed notice or advertisement to be given out by hand

**hand-book** /'hændbʊk/ *n* a short book giving all the most important information about a subject: *a handbook of roadsigns* | *a tourist handbook* —compare **MANUAL**<sup>2</sup>

**hand-brake** /'hændbreɪk/ *n* an apparatus (**BRAKE**) that stops a vehicle, worked by the driver's hand, not by the foot —see picture at **CAR**

**handbrake turn** /'hændbreɪk/ *n* *BrE* the action of making a car turn to one side suddenly by putting on the handbrake when the car is moving quickly, making the back wheels **SKID**. Handbrake turns are dangerous and are typically done by **HOTTERS** (=young people who steal cars and drive them fast).

**hand-car** /'hændkɑːr/ *n* *AmE* a railway vehicle operated by large handles pushed up and down which cause the wheels to turn

**hand-cart** /'hændkɑːt||-kɑːrt/ *n* a small cart which can be pushed or pulled by hand

**hand-clap** /'hændklæp/ *n* a clapping (**CLAP**<sup>1</sup>) action of the hands —see also **SLOW HANDCLAP**

**hand cream** /'hændkriːm/ *n* [**U**] a substance which is rubbed into the hands to keep them soft and to prevent the skin from cracking

**hand-cuff** /'hændkʌf/ *v* [**T**] to put handcuffs on (someone)

**hand-cuffs** /'hændkʌfs/ *n* [**P**] a pair of metal rings joined together by a short chain and fastened with a key, for holding together the wrists of a prisoner

**Han-del** /'hændl/, **George Fred-e-ric** /dʒɔːrdʒ 'fredərɪk||dʒɔːrdʒ-/ (1685–1759) a British **COMPOSER**, born in Germany, noted for his **ORATORIOS**, such as the *Messiah*, and his **ORCHESTRAL** music, particularly his *Water Music* and *Music for the Royal Fireworks*

**hand-ful** /'hændfʊl/ *n* **1** [**C** (**of**)] an amount which is as much as can easily be held in the hand: *a handful of nuts/of small change* **2** [**C** (**of**)] a small number (of people): *We invited 30 people, but only a handful (of them) came.* **3** [**S**] *infml* a person or thing that is so active that it is difficult to control: *That child is quite a handful/Those children are quite a handful.*

**hand-gun** /'hændgʌn/ *n* *esp. AmE* a small gun held in one hand while firing, not raised against the shoulder; a **PISTOL** —compare **RIFLE**

**hand-i-cap**<sup>1</sup> /'hændɪkæp/ *n* **1** a a disability of the body or mind that causes a person serious difficulty: *Blindness is a great handicap.* **b** any condition or situation likely to cause disadvantage or difficulty: *Not being able to drive is quite a handicap if you live in the country.* **2** (in a race or other sport or game) a disadvantage given to the stronger competitors, such as carrying more weight or starting from a worse position: *He has a handicap of 100 metres.* (=He starts 100 metres behind slower runners.) | *a three-stroke handicap in golf*

**handicap**<sup>2</sup> *v* -pp- [**T**] **1** (of a quality or situation) to cause (someone) to have a disadvantage: *We were handicapped by lack of money.* **2** [*usu. pass.*] (of a physical or **MENTAL** disability) to prevent (someone) from acting and living as most people do

**hand-i-capped** /'hændɪkæpt/ *adj* having a disability of the body or mind: *physically handicapped* [also *n*, *the+P*] *a special school for the mentally handicapped* (=for people who are mentally handicapped)

**hand-i-craft** /'hændɪkraʊt||-kræft/ also **craft** *n* [*usu. pl.*] a skill needing careful use of the hands, such as sewing, weaving, making baskets, etc.

**hand-i-work** /'hændɪwɜːk||-wɜːrk/ *n* [**U**] **1** work demanding the skilful use of the hands: *an exhibition of handiwork by the schoolchildren* **2** the result, esp. the undesirable result, of someone's action or efforts: *This explosion looks like the handiwork of terrorists.*

**hand job** /'hændjɒb/ *n* *taboo sl* an act of **MASTURBATION**, esp. when performed on another person

**hand-ker-chief** /'hæŋkətʃɪf||-kər-/ -chiefs or chievers /tʃiːvz/ *n* a piece of cloth or thin soft paper for drying the nose, eyes, etc.: *a paper handkerchief*

► **CULTURAL NOTE** There is a well-known **STEREOTYPE** of an older British man wearing a handkerchief, knotted at each corner, to protect his head from the sun when he is on holiday. ◀

**han-dle**<sup>1</sup> /'hændl/ *n* **1** a part of an object which is specially made for holding it or for opening it: *a door handle* | *Pick up the typewriter case by the handle.* —see pictures at **CAR**, **GUN**, and **TOOL** **2** *old-fash infml* a title or a name, esp. one that sounds important **3** *infml* the call-sign of a **CB** user —see also **fly off the handle** (**FLY**<sup>1</sup>)

**handle**<sup>2</sup> *v* **1** [**T**] **a** to pick up, touch, or feel with the hands: *Customers are asked not to handle the goods in the shop.* **b** to move by hand: *Glass — handle with care!* (a notice on a box) **2** [**T**] to deal with; control: *It was a difficult situation and he handled it very well.* | *She really knows how to handle a fast car!* **3** [**T**] to have responsibility for; be in charge of: *Ms Brown handles the company's accounts.* **4** [**T**] to treat; behave towards: *He's not a very good teacher — he doesn't know how to handle children.* **5** [**T**] to buy, sell, or deal with (goods or services) in business or trade: *We don't handle that sort of book.* | *The dockers refused to handle South African imports.* | *a handling charge* (=money charged for selling or dealing with goods) **6** [**I+adv/prep**] (of a car, boat, etc.) to obey controlling movements in the stated way: *The boat handles well, even in rough weather.*

**handlebar mous-tache** /'hændlbaːz||-baːrz/ *n* a long heavy **MOUSTACHE** which curves upwards at both ends. This kind of moustache was esp. popular with men in the British airforce in the Second World War.

**handlebar moustache**



**han-dle-bars** /'hændlbaːz||-baːrz/ *n* [**P**] the usu. curved bar above the front wheel of a bicycle or motorcycle, which controls the direction it goes in —see picture at **BICYCLE**

**han-dler** /'hændlə/ *n* a person who controls an animal: *a dog handler*

**hand-loom** /'hændluːm/ *n* a small machine (a **LOOM**) for weaving by hand

**hand lug-gage** /'hændlʊɡeɪ/ *n* [**U**] a traveller's light or small bags, cases, etc., which can be carried by hand: *You can take your hand luggage with you on the plane.*

**hand-made** /'hænd'meɪd/ *adj* made by hand, not machine: *These shoes were expensive, but they're handmade.*

**hand-maid-en** /'hænd'meɪdn/ also **hand-maid** /'hænd'meɪd/ — *n* *old use* a female servant

**hand-me-down** /'hændmeɪdn/ also **reach-me-down** *BrE* — *n* [*usu. pl.*] a garment used by one person after belonging to another usu. older person: *wearing my big brother's hand-me-downs* | *hand-me-down clothes*

**hand-out** /'hændaʊt/ *n* **1** something given free, such as food, clothes, etc., esp. to someone poor **2** information given out, e.g. to students attending a talk esp. in the form of a printed sheet: *Please read the handout carefully.* — see also **HAND OUT**

**hand-o-ver** /'hændəʊvə/ *n* an act of passing something, esp. power or responsibility, from one person or group to another; **TRANSFER**: *the handover of power to the new government* —see also **HAND OVER**

**hand-picked** /'hænd'pɪkt/ *adj* (esp. of a person or people) chosen with great care, usu. for a special purpose: *a handpicked audience* | *a squad of handpicked commandos*

**hand-rail** /'hændreɪl/ *n* a bar of wood or metal that is fixed beside a place where people walk for holding onto, esp. near stairs —compare **BANISTER**, **RAILING**

**hands down** /'hændsdaʊn/ *adv* *AmE* easily; without effort: *The Bulls beat the Lakers hands down last night.*

**hand-shake** /'hændʃeɪk/ *n* **1** an act of taking each other's right hand when two people meet or leave each other. **FREEMASONS** are said to have a special kind of handshake, and this is sometimes mentioned in stories and jokes. — see also **GOLDEN HANDSHAKE** **2** the way a person does this: *I like a man with a firm handshake.*

**hand-shak-ing** /'hændʃeɪkɪŋ/ *n* [**U**] *tech* an exchange of signals between two pieces of electronic equipment, such as **MODEMS**, to see if they have a workable way of exchanging information



**hands off** /, · ˈ- / *interj* Don't touch: (fig.) "*Hands off the unions!*" the strikers shouted.

**hands-off** /, · - / *adj* [A] letting other people act and make decisions, without trying to tell them what to do: *a hands-off management policy*

**hand-some** /ˈhænsəm/ *adj* **1** a (esp. of men) good-looking; of attractive appearance **b** (esp. of women) strong-looking; attractive with a firm, large appearance rather than a delicate one —see BEAUTIFUL (USAGE); see also **tall, dark, and handsome** (TALL (3)) **2** large in quantity; PLENTIFUL: *a handsome reward* **3** generous: *a handsome gesture/contribution* — *~ly adv*

**handsome prince** /, · ˈ- / *often caps.* a character in fairy stories who sometimes changes from a FROG (=small green water animal) into a prince or breaks a SPELL, then marries the princess so that the story ends happily: *women who are tired of waiting for their handsome prince* —see also FROG PRINCE

**hands-on** /, · - / *adj* [A] providing or being practical experience of something, esp. of using computers, rather than just information about it: *The computer course includes plenty of hands-on training.*

**hand-stand** /ˈhændstænd/ *n* a movement in which the legs are kicked into the air so that the body is upside down and supported on the hands

**hands up** /, · ˈ- / *interj* (used by gunmen) Put your arms above your head!

**hand-to-hand** /, · ˈ- / *adj, adv* involving physical touching: *The soldiers were engaged in hand-to-hand combat* (=fighting without weapons).

**hand towel** /, · ˈ- / *n* a small TOWEL for drying one's hands

**hand-writ-ing** /ˈhændˌraɪtɪŋ/ *n* [U] **1** writing done by hand **2** the style or appearance of handwriting done by a particular person: *very clear handwriting*

**hand-writ-ten** /ˈhændˌraɪtən/ *adj* written by hand, not printed

**hand-y** /ˈhændi/ *adj* **1** useful and simple to use: *a handy little gadget for peeling potatoes* **2** [(with)] clever in using the hands: *handy with her needle* (=good at sewing) **3** [(for)] *infml* near; easily reached: *The shops are quite handy.* | *The house is quite handy for the shops.* | *Keep a pencil and paper handy.* **4** *come in handy* to be useful: *A few more traveller's cheques may come in handy on holiday.* — *ily adv* — *iness n* [U]

**Handy, W C** (1873–1958) an American JAZZ musician thought to be the first to write BLUES music, known esp. for his song *St Louis Blues*

**hand-y-man** /ˈhændimæn/ *n* **-men** /men/ a person who does repairs and practical jobs well, esp. in the house

**hang**<sup>1</sup> /hæŋ/ *v* **hung** /hʌŋ/ **1** [T] to fix (something) at the top so that the lower part is free: *to hang curtains* | *Hang your coat (up) on the hook.* **2** [I+adv/prep] to be in such a position: *Her coat was hanging on the door.* | *They climbed up a rope that hung down from the roof.* **3** [I;T] (past tense & participle usu. **hanged**) to (cause to) die, esp. in punishment for a crime, by dropping with a rope around the neck: *The murderer was condemned to be hanged.* | *He hanged himself in a fit of remorse.* | *You'll hang for this!* **4** [T usu. pass.] to show (a painting) publicly: *His pictures were hung in the Museum of Modern Art.* **5** [T] **a** to fix (wallpaper) on a wall **b** to fix (a door) in position on HINGES **6** [I;T] **a** (of certain kinds of meat) to hang until ready to be eaten: *Let the pheasant hang for a few days.* **b** to cause (certain kinds of meat) to hang until ready to be eaten: *The flavour improves if you hang it for a few days.* **7** [I;T] *old-fash infml* (used to express annoyance or a wish that someone will suffer misfortune, esp. in the phrases *I'll be hanged*, *Hang it (all)!*, *Go hang!*): *I'll be hanged if I'll let you insult my wife!* | *He can go hang for all I care!* **8** *hang by a thread* to be in great danger: *The sick man's life hung by a thread.* **9** *hang fire* to be delayed in development; stop happening or continuing: *We're working very hard on the new house, so our plans for a holiday will have to hang fire for a time.* **10** *hang in the balance* to be in an uncertain position in which things may end well or badly: *The government's future now hangs in the balance.* **11** *hang in there infml* to remain brave or firm in spite of difficulties **12** *hang one's head* to appear ashamed **13** *hang up one's hat infml* to stop doing a habitual activity, esp. one's work: *At the age of 60, he hung up his hat and retired.* **14** *One*

*may as well be hanged for a sheep as a lamb infml* One may as well do something very wrong if the punishment for something less serious is just as severe

**hang about** || **hang around** *AmE—phr v BrE infml* **1** [I;T] (=hang about sthg.) also **hang around**—to wait or stay near (a place) without doing anything or with no clear purpose: *I hung about (the station) for an hour but he didn't come.* **2** [I] to delay or move slowly; DAWDLE: *Don't hang about, we have a train to catch!* | *Hang about* (=wait a minute) — *I'm nearly ready.*

**hang back** *phr v* [I] to be unwilling to speak, act, or move, esp. because of fear or lack of confidence: *The bridge looked so unsafe that we all hung back.* | *Don't hang back — go and introduce yourself to her.*

**hang on** *phr v* **1** [I (to)] to keep hold of something: *Hang on (to the strap): the bus is about to start.* **2** [I] to continue waiting: *I finish work at five but I'll hang on until half past to meet you.* | (esp. BrE) *I'm afraid the (telephone) line is engaged, would you like to hang on?* **3** [I] to continue in spite of difficulties; PERSEVERE: *I know you're tired, but try to hang on a bit longer.* **4** [T] (**hang on/upon** sthg.) to pay close attention to: *The boy admires his teacher and hangs on his every word.* **5** [T no pass.] (**hang on** sthg.) to depend on: *The future of the company hangs on the outcome of this meeting.* [+wh] *Everything hangs on where they went next.*

**hang onto** sthg./sbdy. *phr v* [T] *infml* to try to keep: *We should hang onto the house and sell it later when prices are higher.*

**hang out** *phr v* [I+adv/prep] **1** *infml* to live or spend a lot of time in a particular place: *He hangs out in Green Street.* | *They normally hang out in the pub.* **2** *let it all hang out old-fash sl* to behave exactly as you want to —see also HANGOUT

**hang over** sthg./sbdy. *phr v* (esp. of an unpleasant event) to be about to happen or seem likely to happen soon: *The prospect of defeat is now hanging over them.* | *The threat of war hung over Europe for 21 years.* | *With the exams hanging over her head, she can't sleep at nights.* —see also HANGOVER

**hang together** *phr v* [I] **1** to remain united: "*We must indeed all hang together, or ... we shall all hang* (=be hanged) *separately.*" (Benjamin Franklin) **2** to form a whole in which the separate parts agree with each other; be CONSISTENT (2): *The witness's story just doesn't hang together, and I don't see how it can be true.*

**hang up** *phr v* [I] **1** [(on)] to finish a telephone conversation by putting the RECEIVER back: *It's a bad line; hang up and I'll call you back.* | *I was so angry I hung up on her.* (=while she was still talking) —see TELEPHONE (USAGE) **2** to hang (clothes) on a HANGER: *Would you please hang up your clothes?* **3** *be hung up on/about infml* to be anxious or have a fixed idea about: *She's very hung up about being alone.* —see also HANG-UP

**hang**<sup>2</sup> *n* [the+S] **1** the shape or way something hangs: *I don't like the hang of this coat at the back.* **2** *get/have the hang of something infml* to learn how to do something or use something, esp. when this needs skill: *Press this button when the light goes on — you'll soon get the hang of it.*

**hang-gar** /ˈhæŋɡər/ *n* a big building where aircraft are kept between flights or when being built or repaired

**hang-dog** /ˈhæŋdɒɡ/ || -dɔːɡ/ *adj* [A] (of an expression on the face) unhappy esp. because ashamed or sorry

**hang-er** /ˈhæŋɡər/ also **coat hanger**— *n* a frame with a hook and crosspiece which is put inside the shoulders of a dress, coat, etc., so that it can be hung up and will keep its shape

**hanger-on** /, · ˈ- / *n* **hangers-on** *usu. derog* a person who tries to be friendly with another person or group, esp. for his or her own advantage: *The rock group arrived with all their hangers-on.*

**hang glid-ing** /, · ˈ- / *n* [U] the sport of gliding (GLIDE (2b)) using a large KITE (2) (a **hang glider**) instead of a plane

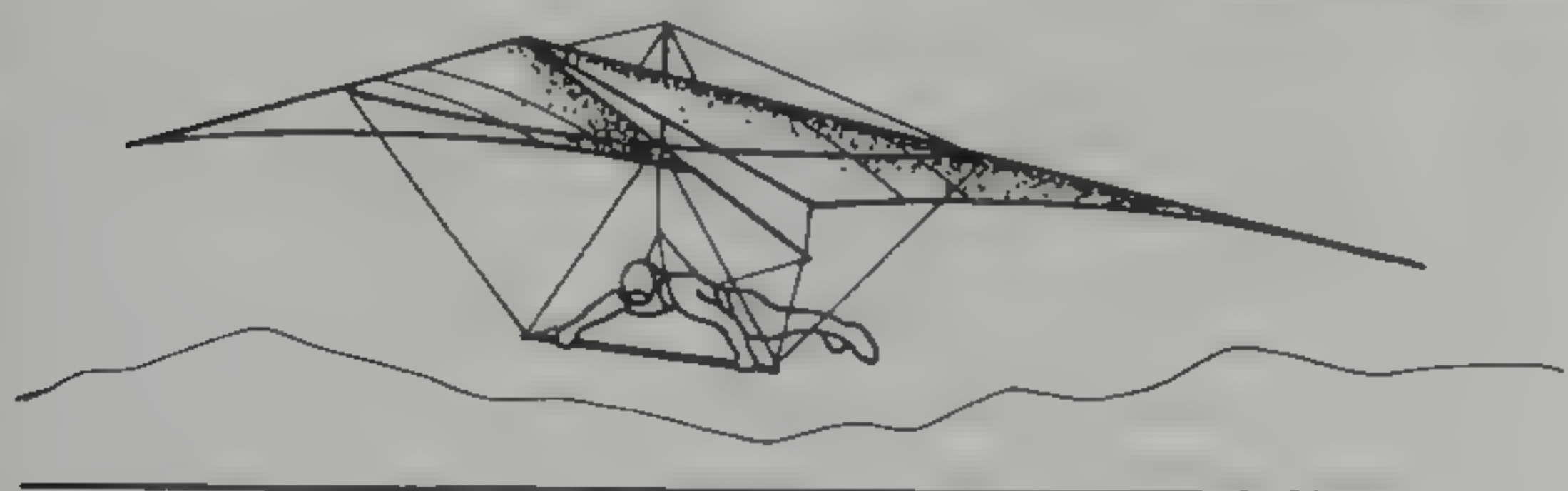
**hang-ing**<sup>1</sup> /ˈhæŋɪŋ/ *n* **1** [U] the punishment in which death is caused by hanging a person from a rope round the neck: *When was hanging abolished here?* **2** [C] a death of this type: *There have been no hangings in Britain for many years.*

**hanging**<sup>2</sup> *adj* [A] **1** connected with the punishment of people by hanging: *a hanging offence* (=crime punishable by death) | *a hanging judge* (=a severe judge in times past who often ordered people to be hanged) **2**



**it's/that's no hanging matter** *infml* the problem, or your mistake, is not as bad as you think it is

### hang gliding



**hang-ings** /'hæŋɪŋz/ *n* [P] curtains and any other materials hanging over the walls, windows, doors, etc., of a house: *wall hangings*

**hang-man** /'hæŋmən/ *n* -men /mən/ the person whose work is hanging criminals

**hang-nail** /'hæŋneɪl/ *n* a piece of skin that has come loose near the bottom of the fingernail where it grows out from the skin

**hang-out** /'hæŋaʊt/ *n* *sl* a place that a person lives in or often visits: *one of my favourite hangouts* — see also **HANG out**

**hang-o-ver** /'hæŋəʊvə/ *n* 1 the feeling of headache, sickness, etc., the day after drinking too much alcohol 2 [(from)] a condition or effect resulting from an earlier event or situation: *The licensing laws are a hangover from wartime.*

**hang-up** /'hæŋ.ʊp/ *n* *infml* something that a person gets unusually worried about, perhaps without good reason: *She's got a real hang-up about her appearance.* — see also **HANG up** (2)

**han-ker** /'hæŋkə/ *v*

**hanker after/for** sthg. *phr v* [T] *infml* to have a strong wish for (usu. something one cannot have); **YEARN for**: *He's lonely and hankers after friendship.*

**han-ker-ing** /'hæŋkərɪŋ/ *n* [(for, after)] *infml* a strong wish; **LONGING**: *a hankering after fame and wealth*

**han-kie**, -ky /'hæŋki/ *n* *infml* a handkerchief

**hank-y-pank-y** /'hæŋki 'pæŋki/ *n* [U] *infml*, often *humor* cheating or deceit or sexually improper behaviour of a not very serious kind: *a bit of hanky-panky at the office party*

**Han-ni-bal** /'hænbəl/ (247–183 BC) a general who led the army of Carthage against the Romans between 218 and 201 BC. Hannibal is famous esp. for having crossed the Alps into Italy with around 35,000 men and 37 **ELEPHANTS**.

**Ha-noi** /hæ'noɪ/ the capital city of Vietnam, on the Red River

**Han-o-ver** /'hænoʊvə/ a city in NW Germany, the capital city of Lower Saxony; German name **Hannover**

**Han-o-ve-ri-an** /'hænoʊ'vɪəriən/ *adj* of or supporting the line of English kings and queens which originally came from Hanover and ruled from 1714 to 1901: *George III was a Hanoverian king.*

**Han-sard** /'hænsɑːd/ -sərd/ the printed report of what is said and done in the British parliament: *Read about the debate in Hansard.* — compare **CONGRESSIONAL RECORD**

**Han-se-at-ic League** /'hænsiætɪk 'liːg/ [*the*] a trade organization of German towns which existed from the 13th to the 17th centuries to protect each other against competition from abroad. Bremen, Hamburg, and Lübeck are still known as Hanseatic cities.

**Han-sel and Gret-el** /'hænsəl ənd 'gretl/ the chief characters in the fairy story of that name by the Grimm Brothers. Hansel, a boy, and Gretel, a girl, are left alone in a forest. They discover a house made of **GINGERBREAD** and belonging to a wicked **WITCH**. The witch wants to eat the children, but Gretel pushes her into an **OVEN** and the children go home with her riches.

**han-som** /'hænsəm/ also **hansom cab** /'hænsəm 'kæb/ *n* a two-wheeled horse-drawn carriage whose driver sits on a high outside seat at the back, used until early in the 20th century, usu. as a kind of taxi

**Han-son Group** /'hænsən 'gruːp/ a British company dealing in industrial services, food products, etc. It was begun by Lord Hanson.

**Ha-nuk-kah, Chanukah** /'hɑːnʊkə||'kɑːnəkə, 'hɑː-/ an

eight-day Jewish holiday marking an ancient victory in Israel, when Jewish children get presents

**hap-haz-ard** /'hæp'hæzəd-||-ərd/ *adj* happening in an unplanned disorderly manner: *The town grew in a haphazard way.* — *~ly adv*

**hap-less** /'hæpləs/ *adj* [A] *poet* unlucky: *a hapless lover*

**hap-ly** /'hæpli/ *adv* *lit* or *old use* perhaps: *"Haply I may remember, | And haply may forget."* (Christina Rossetti)

**hap'orth** /'heɪpəθ||-əθ/ *n* **hap'orth** [(of)] *old-fash BrE* a **HALFPENNYWORTH**

**hap-pen** /'hæpən/ *v* [I] 1 (of an event or situation) to come into existence, esp. without being planned; **OCCUR**: *What time did the accident happen?* | *No one knew who had fired the gun — it all happened so quickly.* | *I can't understand how this happened.* | *They keep saying inflation will fall soon, but it hasn't happened yet.* — see also **HAPPEN to** 2 to be the result of an event or course of action: *She pressed hard on the brake but nothing happened.* | *What would happen if your parents found out?* 3 to be or do by or as if by chance: [+to-v] *I happened to see her on my way to work.* | *If you happen to find it, please let me know.* [it+I+(that)] *It happened that they were out when we called.* | *They were out, as it happened.* | (used to show annoyance or to give force to a statement) *I happen to like her, so don't be so rude about her.* | *That happens to be my car you're leaning on.* | *It just so happens that you're wrong.*

▷ **USAGE** Compare **happen**, **occur**, and **take place**. Events usually **happen** or (more formal) **occur** by accident: *When did the explosion happen/occur?* Events usually **take place** by arrangement: *When will the wedding take place?* <

**happen on/upon** sbdy./sthg. *phr v* [T *no pass.*] to find or meet by chance: *I happened on an old country inn, and stopped to have a meal.*

**happen to** sbdy./sthg. *phr v* [T *no pass.*] (of an event) to take place and have an effect on: *I wonder what's happened to Jane — she's two hours late.* | *Whatever happened to that singer you used to like so much?*

**happen<sup>2</sup>** *adv* **NEngE** perhaps

**hap-pen-ing** /'hæpənɪŋ/ *n* 1 something that happens; an event 2 (esp. in the 1960s and early 1970s) an unprepared performance or other event that catches attention

**hap-pi-ly** /'hæpɪli/ *adv* 1 in a happy manner: *laughing happily* 2 fortunately: *Happily, the accident was not serious.*

**hap-pi-ness** /'hæpɪnɪs/ *n* [U] the state of being happy

**hap-py** /'hæpi/ *adj* 1 a feeling or showing pleasure and contentment: *a happy child/smile* | *The news made us all very happy.* [F+(that)|to-v] *I'm so happy that you could come!* | *You'll be happy to know that she's just had a baby girl.* b causing pleasure and contentment: *a happy marriage* | *one of the happiest days of my life* — opposite **unhappy** 2 [F (about, with)] feeling that something is right or good; satisfied: *The government won't be very happy about the latest unemployment statistics.* | *Are you happy with his work?* 3 [A] (of events) fortunate: *By a happy coincidence we were all booked in to the same hotel.* 4 *fml* or *lit* (of behaviour, thoughts, etc.) suitable; **FELICITOUS**: *His choice of words was not a happy one.* 5 [F+to-v; *no comp.*] willing; glad; not finding it difficult (to): *I'll be happy to meet him when I have some free time.* 6 [A *no comp.*] (used in wishes about events or occasions) full of pleasure and success (esp. in phrases like **Happy New Year**, **Happy Birthday**): *Happy Anniversary!* | *Happy Christmas!* — see also **SLAPHAPPY**, **TRIGGER-HAPPY**

**Happy Days** /'hæpi 'deɪz/ an American television **SERIES** for teenagers set in the 1950s. The central character is called Fonzy — see also **FONZ** and see colour picture on page 686

**Happy Days are Here A-gain** /'hæpi 'deɪz ə 'heɪə 'geɪn/ the title of a popular song of the 1930s, now used to say that a general situation is improving

**Happy Eat-er** /'hæpi 'iːtə/ *n* one of a group of restaurants placed beside roads and **MOTORWAYS** everywhere in Britain — compare **LITTLE CHEF**

**happy e-vent** /'hæpi 'iːvnt/ *n* **BrE** the birth of a child

**happy-go-luck-y** /'hæpi 'goʊlʊki/ *adj* *usu. not derog* (of people or their behaviour) showing a lack of careful thought or planning; tending not to worry; **CAREFREE**

**happy hour** /'hæpi 'aʊə/ *n* *infml* a limited period in a day when



alcoholic drinks are sold at lower than the usual prices in a bar, PUB, etc.

**happy me-di-um** /, . . '.../ *n* [usu. sing.] a way of doing something that is halfway between two opposite ways that are possible; COMPROMISE: *We try to strike a happy medium between working too hard and not working at all.*

**Haps-burg** /'hæpsbɜːg||-bɜːrg/ *adj* of or supporting a family of German princes that ruled in Austria from 1278 to 1918 and in Spain from 1516 to 1700; German name **Habsburg**

**har-a-ki-r-i** /, hærə 'kɪrɪ/ *n* [U] a way of ceremonially killing oneself by cutting open the stomach, formerly used in Japan by male members of the Samurai class

**ha-rangue**<sup>1</sup> /hə'reɪŋ/ *n* a loud or long speech, esp. one which blames those listening to it or tries to persuade them: *The minister of propaganda delivered his usual harangue.*

**harangue**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T] to attack or try to persuade with a long often loud and attacking speech: *The teacher harangued us all about our untidy work. | I didn't come here to be harangued!*

**Ha-ra-re** /hə'reɪrɪ/ the capital city of Zimbabwe, formerly called Salisbury

**har-ass** /'hærəs, hə'ræs||hə'ræs, 'hærəs/ *v* [T] 1 to make (someone) worried and unhappy by causing trouble, esp. on repeated occasions: *a busy, harassed housewife | I feel rather harassed by all the pressures at the office.* 2 to cause problems for by making repeated attacks against: *Our soldiers harassed the enemy.* — ~ment *n* [U]: *a campaign against harassment of immigrants by the police* — see also SEXUAL HARASSMENT

**har-bin-ger** /'hɑːbɪndʒəʳ||'hɑːr-/ *n* [(of)] *lit* a person or thing showing that something is going to happen or is on its way: *Daffodils are a harbinger of spring.* —compare HERALD

**har-bour**<sup>1</sup> *BrE* || **harbor** *AmE* /'hɑːbəʳ||'hɑːr-/ *n* [C;U] an area of water by a coast which is sheltered from rougher waters so that ships are safe inside it

**harbour**<sup>2</sup> *BrE* || **harbor** *AmE* *v* [T] 1 to give protection, esp. by giving food and shelter, to (something or someone bad) either on purpose or without knowing: *Harbouring criminals is an offence in law.* 2 to keep in the mind (thoughts or feelings, esp. when bad): *He harbours a secret grudge against his father.*

**hard**<sup>1</sup> /hɑːd||hɑːrd/ *adj* 1 firm and stiff; difficult or impossible to break, press down, or bend: *The snow has frozen hard. | The plate smashed as it fell on the hard floor. | This ice cream is as hard as rock.* —opposite **soft** 2 difficult to do or understand: *There were some hard questions on the exam paper. [+to-v] It's hard to know what he's really thinking. | He is a hard person to understand.* —opposite **easy** 3 a using force: *I gave it a hard push/a hard kick.* b needing force or effort of body or mind: *hard work | (fig.) We must take a long hard look at this plan.* (=examine it very carefully) 4 [A] putting great effort into the stated activity; DILIGENT: *She's a hard worker.* (=She works hard.) | *John's a hard drinker.* (=drinks a lot of alcohol) 5 full of difficulty and trouble; not pleasant: *a hard life | The police gave me a hard time.* (=hurt, annoyed, or threatened me) 6 [(on)] (of people, punishments, etc.) not gentle; showing no kindness; severe: *You're a hard woman. | Don't be too hard on them. | I'm afraid I said some very hard things to her. | She drives a hard bargain.* (=makes agreements to her own advantage but not necessarily to anyone else's) 7 (of seasons and weather) very cold; severe: *a hard winter | a hard frost* —opposite **mild** 8 *not tech* (in English pronunciation): a (of the letter c) pronounced as /k/ rather than /s/ b (of the letter g) pronounced as /g/ rather than /dʒ/: *The letter "g" is hard in "get" and soft in "gentle".* 9 (of water) containing minerals that prevent soap from mixing properly with the water —opposite **soft** 10 [A] (of a drug) considered dangerous and/or ADDICTIVE to users —opposite **soft** 11 [A] based on what is clearly true or can be proved: *The police have several theories about the case, but no hard evidence. | Can linguistics ever be a hard science like physics?* 12 **be hard on** to wear (something) out easily or quickly: *Children are very hard on their shoes.* 13 **do something the 'hard way** to learn by difficult experience, not by being taught 14 **take (some/a few) hard knocks** to have painful experiences, bad luck, difficulties, etc. —see also HARDLY; see HARDEN (USAGE) —**hardness** *n* [U]

**hard**<sup>2</sup> *adv* 1 using great and steady effort; in a STRENUOUS way: *I tried so hard to please her. | You've been working much too hard. | I thought long and hard about the problem. | Listen hard and you might just hear it. | a hard-fought election campaign* 2 strongly; heavily; in large amounts over a period of time: *It's raining harder than ever.* 3 **be hard done by** to be unfairly treated: *I felt very hard done by when I got less money than anybody else, after I had worked twice as hard.* 4 **be hard hit (by)** to suffer loss because of (some event): *The farmers were hard hit by the bad weather.* 5 **be hard put (to it)** to to have great difficulty (in doing something): *We were hard put to find a replacement for our assistant.* 6 (it) **go(es) hard with someone** to be (an experience that is) difficult for someone to accept: *It goes hard with him to be alone so often.* 7 **hard 'at it** working with all one's force in some activity; working as hard as one can: *I'm glad to see you're still hard at it!* 8 **hard on the heels** of close behind; very soon after: *War came hard on the heels of the economic depression.* 9 **take (it) hard** to suffer deeply: *Don't take it so hard: you'll feel better tomorrow. | She's taking her father's death very hard.* —see also HARD BY, HARD UP, HARD UPON, **die hard** (DIE<sup>1</sup> (5)); see TRY (USAGE)

**hard-and-fast** /, . . '.../ *adj* (of rules) fixed and unchangeable

**hard-back** /'hɑːdbæk||'hɑːrd-/ *n* a book with a strong stiff cover. Hardbacks are usu. more expensive than paperbacks (=books with thin cardboard covers): *Is it available in hardback?* —compare PAPERBACK

**hard-ball** /'hɑːdbɔːl||'hɑːrd-/ *n* [U] *AmE* 1 BASEBALL rather than SOFTBALL 2 **play hardball** *infml* to use methods that are not gentle and may even be unfair: *He played political hardball to get a government job.*

**hard-bit-ten** /, . . '.../ *adj* (appearing) firm and strong, esp. when made like this by long and hard experience: *a hard-bitten old soldier*

**hard-board** /'hɑːdbɔːd||'hɑːrdbɔːrd/ *n* [U] strong material made out of fine pieces of wood pressed into sheets and used in making things instead of e.g. a light wood

**hard-boiled** /, . . '.../ *adj* 1 (of an egg) boiled until the yellow part is hard —compare SOFT-BOILED 2 *infml* (of a person) not showing feelings or influenced by feelings, esp. because of bitter experience

**hard-bound** /'hɑːdbaʊnd||'hɑːrd-/ *adj* HARDCOVER

**hard by** /, . . '.../ *adv, prep* esp. *lit* very near: *The house stood hard by (the river).*

**hard can-dy** /, . . '.../ *n* [C;U] *AmE* a BOILED SWEET, or boiled sweets in general: *They sell hard candy. | a dish of hard candies*

**hard cash** /, . . '.../ *n* [U] money in coins and notes; CASH: *I offered to give him a cheque, but he demanded hard cash.*

**hard ci-der** /, . . '.../ *n* [C;U] *AmE* for alcoholic CIDER. Alcoholic cider cannot usu. be bought in the US, but freshly pressed apple juice which has naturally turned alcoholic, accidentally or otherwise, is called hard cider.

**hard cop-y** /, . . '.../ *n* [U] *tech* readable information from a computer, esp. when printed on paper —compare SOFT COPY

**hard core**<sup>1</sup> /, . . '.../ *n* 1 [S+sing./pl. v] (/, . . '.../) often *derog* the small central group that takes the most active part within a larger group or organization: *The hard core of party activists make/makes all the decisions.* 2 [U] (/, . . '.../) *BrE* the broken brick, stone, etc., used as a base when a road is built

**hard-core**<sup>2</sup> /, . . '.../ *adj* [A] 1 often *derog* very strongly following a particular belief or activity, and unlikely to change: *hard-core opposition to the government | a hard-core criminal type* 2 showing or describing sexual activity in a very open and detailed way: *hard-core pornography*

**hard-cov-er** /'hɑːd,kʌvəʳ||'hɑːrd-/ also **hardbound**—*adj* (of a book) having a firm stiff cover (BINDING); being a HARDBACK

**hard cur-ren-cy** /, . . '.../ *n* [C;U] money which is used in international trade, usu. because the country has a favourable BALANCE OF PAYMENTS and a steady EXCHANGE RATE

**hard disk** /, . . '.../ *n* a piece of firm plastic with a coat of a MAGNETIC substance on which information for a



computer can be stored. It can store much more information than a FLOPPY DISK —compare FLOPPY DISK

**hard drink** /,hɑːd ˈdrɪŋ/ also **hard liquor**— *n* [U] strong drink which contains a lot of alcohol, such as WHISKY

**Hard Ec-u** /,hɑːd ˈeɪkə/ [the] a standard unit of money which, it was planned, would be used in Europe in the future together with existing national money systems, until all Europe changed to using just one standard unit (the ecu)

**hard-en** /ˈhɑːdn/ || ˈhɑːrɪdn/ *v* [I;T] **1** to make or become firm or stiff: *The snow hardened until ice was formed.* | *He hardened his hold on the door.* (=held it more tightly) **2** to make or become severe, unkind, or lacking in human feelings: *I hardened my heart against him.* | *Police described the man as a hardened criminal.* **3** to make or become stronger and more able to deal with difficulty, pain, etc: *Life in the mountains hardened me.* | *Opposition to the military government hardened after the massacre.*

▷ **USAGE** **Harden** means “to make or become hard”, but should only be used when **hard** means “firm and stiff” or “unkind and severe”: *Leave the wet cement to harden.* | *She hardened her heart.* In other cases use **get hard(er)**: *The exercises in this book gradually get harder* (=become more difficult). | *Life is getting hard for people on low incomes.* ◁

**harden** sbdy. **to** sthg. *phr v* [T *usu. pass.*] to make (someone) more used to and less sensitive to (something unpleasant): *Dennis is becoming hardened to failure/to failing.*

**hard feelings** /,hɑːd ˈfiːlɪŋz/ *n* **no hard feelings** (used to tell someone with whom you have quarrelled that you do not dislike them or feel anger towards them)

**hard hat** /ˈhɑːd ˈhæt/ *n* **1** a protective hat made of hard material, esp. worn by workers who do building work —compare HELMET **2** *infml* a CONSTRUCTION worker

**hard-head-ed** /,hɑːd ˈhedɪd/ || ˈhɑːrd-/ *adj* **1** practical, firm, and thorough, esp. in business: *a hardheaded businesswoman/decision* **2** *esp. AmE* stupid or difficult to persuade

**hard-heart-ed** /,hɑːd ˈhɑːrtɪd/ *adj* having no kind or sympathetic feelings; **HARD**<sup>1</sup> (6) —opposite **soft-hearted** —*~ly adv* —*~ness n* [U]

**hard-hit-ting** /,hɑːd ˈhɪtɪŋ/ *adj* forceful and effective: *The magazine published a hard-hitting exposé of organized crime.*

**har-di-ness** /ˈhɑːdɪnɪs/ || ˈhɑːr-/ *n* [U] the quality of being **HARDY**

**Hard-ing** /ˈhɑːdɪŋ/ || ˈhɑːr-/ **Warren G** (1865–1923) the 29th president of the US (1921–23)

**hard la-bour** /,hɑːd ˈləʊə/ *n* [U] (a punishment which consists of) hard physical work such as digging or building. **Hard labour** has not been used in Britain since 1948: *He was sentenced to three years' hard labour.*

**hard land-ing** /,hɑːd ˈlændɪŋ/ *n* a sudden fall after a period of economic increase

**hard left** /,hɑːd ˈleft/ *n* **1** [the] *BrE* people, esp. within a political party, whose views are considered to be very left-wing and who are seen as being very active and extreme in their ideas **2** [C] *esp. AmE* a sharp left-hand turn when travelling by car: *Go down this road and take a hard left at the traffic light.*

**hard line** /,hɑːd ˈlaɪn/ *n* [S (on)] a firm unchanging opinion or plan of action, esp. one that is not influenced by points of view: *They're taking a hard line in the pay negotiation, and have refused to improve on their original offer.* —**hard-line adj** —**hard-liner** /,hɑːd ˈlaɪnə/ *n*

**hard liq-uors** /,hɑːd ˈliːkə/ *n* [U] **HARD DRINK**

**hard luck** /,hɑːd ˈlʌk/ also **tough luck**, also **hard lines** *BrE*—*interj, n* [U] *infml* (sorry about your) bad luck: *You failed your exam? Hard luck!*

**hard luck sto-ry** /,hɑːd ˈlʌk ˈstɔːri/ *n* *infml, usu. derog* a story about one's misfortunes, typically told to a friend to get pity, help, or money: *Don't give me any of your hard luck stories.*

**hard-ly** /ˈhɑːdli/ || ˈhɑːrdli/ *adv* **1** almost not; only with difficulty (often with **can** or **could**): *I can hardly wait to hear the news.* | *I could hardly speak for tears.* **2** almost not: *I hardly ever go out these days.* (=almost never) | *You've hardly eaten anything.* | *You've eaten hardly anything.* (=almost nothing) | *Hardly anyone* (=almost no

one) *likes him, because he's so bad-tempered.* —see **NEVER (USAGE)** **3** only just; not really: *I hardly know the people I work with.* | *We had hardly started/Hardly had we started* (=we had only just started) *when the car got a flat tyre.* —see **USAGE** **4** not at all; not reasonably: *This is hardly the time for buying new clothes — I've only got just enough money for food.* | *You can hardly blame me if you didn't like the place, as you were the one who begged me to take you there.*

▷ **USAGE** Compare **hardly**, **scarcely**, **barely**, and **no sooner**. **1** **Hardly**, **scarcely**, and **barely** are followed by *when*, but **no sooner** is followed by *than* in sentences like these: *The game had hardly/scarcely/barely begun when it started raining.* | *The game had no sooner begun than it started raining.* **2** When the sentence begins with any of these words the word order is changed like this: *Hardly/scarcely/barely had the game begun when it started raining.* | *No sooner had the game begun than it started raining.* **3** **Hardly**, **scarcely**, and (less commonly) **barely** can be followed by *any* and *ever* to mean “almost no”, and “almost never”: *We've hardly/scarcely/barely any money left.* | *He's hardly/scarcely/barely ever late for work.* Sentences with **hardly**, **scarcely**, and **barely** can also contain *at all* to mean “almost not”: *We hardly/scarcely/barely got wet at all.* ◁

**hard-nosed** /,hɑːd ˈnɔːsɪd/ *adj infml* extremely determined, firm, and practical in behaviour, esp. in getting what one wants: *a hard-nosed, no-nonsense approach to business*

**hard nut** /,hɑːd ˈnʌt/ *n infml* a difficult thing/person to deal with (esp. in the phrase **a hard nut to crack**)

**hard of hearing** /,hɑːd ˈɒf ˈhiːərɪŋ/ *adj* [F] *euph* unable to hear properly; (rather) **DEAF**: *Could you speak up a bit, as my mother's rather hard of hearing?*

**hard-on** /ˈhɑːd ˈɒn/ *n taboo sl* for **ERECTION** (3)

**hard pal-ate** /,hɑːd ˈpælət/ *n* the bony front part of the top of the mouth —compare **SOFT PALATE**

**hard porn** /,hɑːd ˈpɔːn/ *n* [U] *infml* books, films, etc. that are considered to be extremely **PORNOGRAPHIC** —compare **SOFT PORN**

**hard-pressed** /,hɑːd ˈpresɪd/ *adj* [(for)] experiencing severe or continual difficulties: *a hard-pressed housewife* | *hard-pressed for cash* [F+to-v] *We'll be hard-pressed to finish on time.* (=it will be difficult for us to do so)

**hard right** /,hɑːd ˈraɪt/ *n* **1** [the] *BrE* people, esp. within a political party, whose views are considered to be very right-wing and who are seen as being very active and extreme in their ideas **2** [C] *esp. AmE* a sharp right-hand turn when travelling by car: *Go down this road and take a hard right.*

**hard rock** /,hɑːd ˈrɒk/ *n* a type of **ROCK**<sup>3</sup> music, which has a strong beat, and fast, loud **ELECTRIC GUITAR** playing

**Hard Rock Ca-fe** /,hɑːd ˈrɒk ˈkæfeɪ/ any of an international group of restaurants in big cities which are fashionable, esp. with young people, and where people often wait outside for a long time in order to get in

**hard sauce** /,hɑːd ˈsɔːs/ *n* *AmE* a liquid mixture of butter and sugar, and sometimes cream and **FLAVOURING**, served on top of cakes, etc.

**hard sell** /,hɑːd ˈsel/ *n* [(the) S] the method of trying to sell something by putting repeated forceful pressure on buyers: *She gave me the hard sell and I ended up buying it.* | *hard-sell methods* —opposite **soft sell**

**hard-ship** /ˈhɑːdʃɪp/ || ˈhɑːrd-/ *n* [C;U] (an example of) difficult conditions of life, such as lack of money, unemployment, etc.

**hard shoul-der** /,hɑːd ˈʃəʊldə/ || *usu. shoulder AmE*—*n esp. BrE* an area of ground beside a road, esp. a **MOTORWAY**, that has been given a hard surface where cars can stop if in difficulty, because stopping is not allowed on the road itself

**hard tack** /ˈhɑːd ˈtæk/ *n* [U] **SHIP BISCUIT**

**Hard Times** /,hɑːd ˈtaɪmz/ a **NOVEL** by Charles Dickens about a very practical man, Thomas Gradgrind, who lives in an industrial city and spoils his children's lives because he only thinks about profits

**hard-top** /ˈhɑːdtɒp/ || ˈhɑːrɪtɒp/ *n* a type of car with a metal roof which cannot be moved

**hard up** /,hɑːd ˈʌp/ *adj* [F (for)] *infml* in need (of); not having



enough (esp. money): *We were very hard up when I lost my job.* | *We're a bit hard up for new ideas.*

**hard up-on** /'hɑːdʌp-/ also **hard on** /'hɑːd-/ *prep* esp. *lit* 1 soon after 2 close behind: *He left, and I followed hard on his heels.* (=close behind him)

**hard-ware** /'hɑːdweə/ || 'hɑːrd-/ *n* [U] 1 equipment and tools for the home and garden, such as pans, garden tools, etc. 2 *tech* the machinery which makes up a computer, as opposed to the systems that make it perform particular jobs —compare FIRMWARE, SOFTWARE 3 the physical equipment needed for the operation of any system: *military hardware such as tanks* | *tape recorders and other educational hardware*

**hardware store** /'hɑːdwɜː/ also **ironmonger's** *BrE*— a shop that sells hardware (1)

**hard-wear-ing** /,hɑːd'weəriŋ-|| 'hɑːrd-/ *BrE* || also **long-wearing** *AmE*— *adj* *apprec* (esp. of a material or clothes, shoes, etc.) that lasts for a long time, even when used a lot

**hard-wired** /,hɑːd'waɪəd/ *adj* [(for)] (of computer operations) controlled by HARDWARE rather than SOFTWARE and thus not readily changed by the user: *The printing out of crash dumps is hard-wired on this system.* | (fig.) *My boss is hard-wired to ignore any requests for time off.*

**hard-wood** /'hɑːdwud/ || 'hɑːrd-/ *n* 1 [U] strong heavy wood from trees like the OAK, used to make good furniture 2 [C] a tree that has wood of this type —compare SOFTWOOD

**har-dy** /'hɑːdi/ || 'hɑːrdi/ *adj* 1 (of people or animals) strong; able to bear cold, hard work, etc.; ROBUST —see also HARDINESS 2 *tech* (of plants) able to live through the winter above ground: *This bush is a hardy perennial.*

**Hardy, Ol-i-ver** /'ɒlɪvə/ || 'ɑːl-/ see LAUREL AND HARDY

**Hardy, Thomas** (1840–1928) an English writer and poet, most of whose books are set in Dorset, where he was born, and often describe the unhappy side of life. His best known books include *Far From the Madding Crowd*, *Tess of the D'Urbervilles*, and *Jude the Obscure*.

**Hardy Boys** /'hɑːdi bɔɪz/ brothers who are characters in a number of American books for boys and young men (**Hardy Boys mysteries**). The boys always have unusual adventures and narrowly escape great dangers.

**hardy-har-har** /,hɑːdi hɑː 'hɑːr/ || ,hɑːrdi hɑːr-/ *interj* *AmE* *infml*, *humor* (a phrase supposed to sound like a laugh, but usually used in a SARCASTIC way to mean that something is not very funny)

**hare**<sup>1</sup> /heə/ *n* **hares or hare** 1 an animal like a rabbit, but usu. larger, with long ears, a short tail, and long back legs which make it able to run fast —see also MARCH HARE and see picture at RABBIT 2 **run with the hare and hunt with the hounds** to try to support both sides in an argument or not disagree with either of two opposed groups

**hare**<sup>2</sup> *v* [I+adv/prep] *BrE* *infml* to run very fast: *He hared off down the road.*

**Hare and the Tor-toise** /,hɑːr ənd ðə 'tɔːtɔɪs/, **The** *n* see TORTOISE AND THE HARE

**hare-bell** /'heəbel/ || 'heər-/ *n* a wild plant with bell-shaped blue flowers on top of a thin stem

**hare-brained** /'heəbreɪnd/ || 'heər-/ *adj* (of people or plans) very impractical and foolish: *another one of his hare-brained schemes*

**hare cours-ing** /'hɑːkɔːsɪŋ/ *n* [U] the sport of coursing (COURSE<sup>2</sup> (2))

**Har-e Krish-na** /,hæri 'krɪʃnə/ || ,hɑːr-/ *n* 1 a branch of the HINDU religion worshipping the god Krishna. Hare Krishna is noted for the way its members gather to repeat a pattern of holy words, including “Hare Krishna”, in public. 2 [C] a member of Hare Krishna

**hare-lip** /,heə'lɪp/ || ,heər-/ *n* [S;U] (the condition of having) the top lip divided into two parts, because it did not develop properly before birth: *He has a harelip.* —**lipped** /,heə'lɪpt/ || ,heər-/ *adj*

**har-em** /'heərəm, hɑː'riːm/ || 'hæərəm/ *n* 1 a separated place in a Muslim house where only women live 2 [+sing./pl. v] the women who live in a harem 3 [+sing./pl. v] a group of females living with, or under the protection of, one male

**harem trou-sers** /'hɑːrəm ,trɔːzəz/ || 'hɑːrəm ,trɔːzəz/ *n* [P] a fashionable type of women's trousers which have a great width of material gathered into folds at the waist

**Har-greaves** /'hɑːgrɪvz/ || 'hɑːr-/ **James** (died 1778) an English inventor known for inventing machines such as the SPINNING JENNY, which allowed one person to spin several threads at the same time

**har-i-cot** /'hæɪkət/ || also **haricot bean** /,hɑːrɪkət/ || 'hɑːrɪkət/ *n* a small white bean

**Har-in-gey** /'hæɪŋgeɪ/ a BOROUGH in N London

**hark** /hɑːk/ || hɑːrk/ *v* [I usu. imperative] *lit* to listen; HEARKEN **hark at** sbdy. *phr v* [T imperative] *BrE* *infml* to listen to (someone who is saying something very stupid, unreasonable, etc.): *Hark at him criticizing us! I bet he couldn't do any better!*

**hark back** *phr v* [I (to)] *infml*, sometimes *derog* to mention or return to events, subjects, etc. of an earlier time: *You're always harking back to how things were when you were young.* | *This book harks back to the author's earlier works on philosophy.*

**har-ken** /'hɑːkən/ || 'hɑːr-/ *v* [I (to)] to HEARKEN

**Hark! The Her-ald An-gels Sing** /,hɑːk! ðə 'hɜːrəld ˈæŋdʒəz sɪŋ/ the title and first line of a religious song (CAROL) sung at Christmas

**Har-lem** /'hɑːləm/ || 'hɑːr-/ an area in NE Manhattan in New York City, known esp. for being a poor and dangerous neighbourhood of mostly black people and HISPANICS

**Harlem Globe-trot-ters** /,hɑːləm 'gləʊbtrotəz/ || ,hɑːrələm 'gləʊbtrotəz/ [*the*+P] a BASKETBALL team with black players who travel around the world to play games in which they entertain people with excellent basketball skills and funny acts

**har-le-quin** /'hɑːləkwɪn/ || 'hɑːr-/ *n* (often *cap.*) a character on the stage who wears a special type of bright clothes and plays tricks. He does not speak, and is the lover of Columbine in various old plays.

**Harlequin Ro-mance** /,hɑːləkwɪn 'rəʊməns/ || 'hɑːr-/ *n* one of a series of books published (PUBLISH) in the US containing stories about women and men who fall in love. The stories are often simple, and they usu. have a happy ending.

## Harley Davidson



**Har-ley-Da-vid-son** /,hɑːli 'deɪvɪdsən/ || ,hɑːr-/ *n* *tdmk* a large, heavy, expensive American MOTORCYCLE

**Har-ley Street** /'hɑːli stri:t/ || 'hɑːr-/ (a street in the centre of) an area of London where important doctors (esp. SPECIALISTS) work, who charge money for treatment. Harley Street is a famous and expensive place to get treatment: *a well-known Harley Street doctor*

**har-lot** /'hɑːlət/ || 'hɑːr-/ *n* *old use or lit* a PROSTITUTE

**harm**<sup>1</sup> /hɑːm/ || hɑːrm/ *n* [U (to)] 1 damage or wrong: *His film was a complete failure, and this did his reputation a lot of harm.* | *He means no harm* (=does not intend to offend anyone) *by saying what he thinks, but people tend to be upset by it.* | *What harm is there in staying up a little later?* | *It wouldn't do her any harm to work a bit harder.* (=it would be good for her) | *I don't think you should punish them for this — it would probably do more harm than good.* (=have a damaging rather than helpful effect) —see also GRIEVOUS BODILY HARM 2 **come to harm** [*usu. in negatives*] to be hurt: *My brother's ship was caught in a storm but he came to no harm.* 3 **out of harm's way** in a position in which one is safe from harm or b unable to cause harm

**harm**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T] 1 to cause harm to; hurt (esp. a person): *There was a fire in our street, but no one was harmed.* | *Getting up early won't harm you!* 2 **he/she, etc., wouldn't harm a fly** *infml* he/she, etc., is very gentle by nature



**harm-ful** /'hɑ:mfəl||'hɑ:rm-/ *adj* [(to)] causing or likely to cause harm: *Smoking is harmful to health.* — ~ **fully** *adv* — ~ **fulness** *n* [U]

**harm-less** /'hɑ:mləs||'hɑ:rm-/ *adj* unable or unlikely to cause harm: *The dog seems fierce, but he's harmless.* — ~ **ly** *adv* — ~ **ness** *n* [U]

**har-mon-ic** /hɑ:'mɒnɪk||hɑ:r,mɑ:z-/ *adj* 1 of or relating to (the laws of) music: *harmonic scales* | *harmonic intervals* 2 *AmE* characterized by HARMONY; harmonious: *a harmonic relationship/meeting* — **ically** *adv*

**har-mon-i-ca** /hɑ:'mɒnɪkə||hɑ:r'mɑ:z-/ also **mouthorgan** *infml* — *n* a small musical instrument played by being held to the mouth, moved from side to side, and blown into or sucked through

**har-mo-ni-um** /hɑ:'məʊniəm||hɑ:r-/ *n* a musical instrument played like a piano but working by pumped air (as in an ORGAN (4))

**har-mo-nize** also **-nise** *BrE* /'hɑ:mənaɪz||'hɑ:r-/ *v* [I;T] 1 [(with)] to (cause to) be in agreement with each other or something else, e.g. in purpose, method, style, or colour: *The colours don't seem to harmonize (with each other) at all.* 2 to sing or play (music) in HARMONY (1): *The singing teacher taught them to harmonize (the new song).*

**har-mo-ny** /'hɑ:məni||'hɑ:r-/ *n* 1 [C;U] notes of music combined together in a pleasant sounding way 2 [U (with)] a state of complete agreement (in feelings, ideas, etc.): *Her ideas were no longer in harmony with ours.* | *My cat and dog never fight — they live together in perfect harmony.* 3 [U] the pleasant effect made by parts being combined into a whole: *The harmony of sea and sky makes a beautiful picture.* — compare DISCORD — **nious** /hɑ:'məʊniəs||hɑ:r-/ *adj*: *a harmonious combination of sounds* | *Relations with our neighbours are not harmonious at the moment.* — **niously** *adv* — **niousness** *n* [U]

**har-ness**¹ /'hɑ:nɪs||'hɑ:r-/ *n* [C;U] 1 an apparatus for controlling a horse consisting of leather bands held together by metal 2 a similar apparatus used to control, fasten, or support a person or animal: *a baby's harness* | *a safety harness* 3 **in harness**: *a infml* in one's usual work: *back in harness after a long holiday* **b** living or working closely with another person, esp. one's husband or wife, or one's business partner

**harness**² *v* [T] 1 [(to)] **a** to put a harness on (esp. a horse) **b** to fasten together or fasten to a vehicle: *I harnessed the horse to the cart/the oxen to the plough.* 2 to use (a natural force) to produce useful power: *a new scheme to generate electricity by harnessing the power of the wind*

**Har-old II** /,hærəld ðə 'sekənd/ (1022?–1066) the last ANGLO-SAXON king, who died in battle against William the Conqueror at Hastings

**harp**¹ /hɑ:p||hɑ:rp/ *n* a large musical instrument with strings that are stretched from top to bottom of an open three-cornered frame, played by moving the hands across the strings — see also JEW'S HARP — ~ **ist** *n*

**harp**² *v*  
**harp on** (sthg.) *phr v* [I (about);T] *infml, usu. derog* to talk about (something) repeatedly or continually: *My grandfather still harps on (about) his pre-war illness.* | *Don't keep harping on like that.*

**Har-per's and Queen** /,hɑ:pəz ənd 'kwɪz:n||hɑ:rpəz-/ *tdmk* a British magazine written for wealthy, fashionable people

**Har-pic** /'hɑ:pɪk||'hɑ:r-/ *n* [U] *tdmk* a liquid made by Reckitt & Colman Limited, used to clean and remove GERMS from TOILETS

**har-poon** /hɑ:'pu:n||hɑ:r-/ *n* a spear with a long rope, used for hunting large sea animals, esp. WHALES — **harpoon** *v* [T]

**harp-si-chord** /'hɑ:psɪkɔ:d||'hɑ:rpɪkɔ:rd/ *n* a musical instrument, used esp. formerly, which is played like a piano but produces a different sound

**har-py** /'hɑ:pi||'hɑ:rpɪ/ *n* 1 an evil creature in old stories with the head of a woman and the body of a bird 2 *infml* a cruel or nasty woman

**har-ri-dan** /'hæridən/ *n* *old-fash* a bad-tempered, unpleasant woman; HAG

**har-ri-er** /'hæriə¹/ *n* 1 a kind of dog used for hunting HARES 2 (used esp. in the names of running clubs) a CROSS-COUNTRY runner 3 a kind of meat-eating bird with broad wings and long legs

**Harrier jump jet** /,--- 'hæ-ri-ə- / *n* *tdmk* a plane used by the Royal Air Force because of its short take-off and landing ability. The Royal Navy use the Sea Harrier which is very similar.

**Har-ris** /'hæris/, **Em-my-lou** /'emilu:/ (1949– ) an American popular music singer

**Harris, Rolf** /rɒlf||rɔ:lf/ (1930– ) an Australian singer, writer, and painter who moved to Britain in the 1950s and became a well-known television star. He is remembered by British people esp. for his way of painting pictures very quickly, and also for playing unusual musical instruments, esp. the DIDGERIDOO.

**Har-ri-son** /'hærisən/, **Ben-ja-min** /'bendʒəmɪn/ (1833–1901) the 23rd president of the US (1889–93)

**Harrison, George** (1943– ) an English popular musician and song writer who played with The Beatles. His songs include *My Sweet Lord*.

**Harrison, Rex** (1908–90) a British actor known esp. for his part in the film *My Fair Lady*

**Harris poll** /'hæ-ri- / *n* a study of public opinion made by Louis Harris Associates of New York, or one of their connected companies in Britain or France

**Harris Tweed** /,--- 'hæ-ri- / *n* [U] *tdmk* a type of woollen cloth woven by hand on Harris, an island off the W coast of Scotland

**Har-rods** /'hærədz/ a famous and expensive DEPARTMENT STORE in Knightsbridge, W London — see colour map on page 817

**Har-ro-gate** /'hærəgət||-geɪt/ a SPA town in North Yorkshire, England, which is a popular holiday and RETIREMENT place

**har-row** /'hærəʊ/ *n* a farming machine with sharp metal teeth used to break up the earth and make it smooth — **harrow** *v* [I;T]

**Harrow** also **Harrow School** /,--- 'hæ-ri- / a British PUBLIC SCHOOL for boys, at Harrow-on-the-Hill, NW London. It is one of the most expensive and PRESTIGIOUS public schools in Britain. Men who have been educated at Harrow are known as Old Harrovians. — see also ETON

**har-rowed** /'hærəʊd/ *adj* feeling or showing anxiety and suffering; FRAUGHT: *You're looking rather harrowed.* | *a harrowed expression*

**har-row-ing** /'hærəʊɪŋ/ *adj* causing great suffering and anxiety in the mind; DISTRESSING: *To see someone killed is very harrowing/is a very harrowing experience.*

**har-ry** /'hæri/ *v* [T] *fml or lit* 1 [(for)] to worry or annoy continually: *The tax authorities have been harrying her (for repayment).* 2 to attack repeatedly and with great effect, esp. in war: *The army harried the enemy's borders.*

**Harry, Deb-bie** /'debi/ (1945– ) an American popular music singer, who led the group Blondie

**Harry, Prince** see Prince HENRY

**harsh** /hɑ:f||hɑ:rf/ *adj* 1 unpleasant or painful to the senses, e.g. because very loud or very bright: *harsh colours* | *a harsh voice* | *a harsh light* (=too strong for the eyes) 2 (of people, punishments, etc.) showing cruelty and a lack of sympathy, esp. in dealing with bad behaviour or mistakes; severe: *harsh discipline/punishments* — ~ **ly** *adv* — ~ **ness** *n* [U]

**hart** /hɑ:t||hɑ:rt/ *n* harts or hart esp. *BrE* a male deer, esp. of the RED DEER family, over five years old; STAG — compare HIND

**Hart, Lor-enz Mil-ton** /'lɒrənz 'mɪltən||'lɔ:-/ (1895–1943) an American song writer who worked with Richard Rodgers on MUSICALS

**Hart, Gar-y** /'gæri/ (1936– ) an American Democrat politician who was unsuccessful in the 1988 presidential CAMPAIGN, after stories in the newspapers about his private life

**har-te-beest** /'hɑ:tɪbi:st||'hɑ:r-/ *n* hartebeests or hartebeest a large ANTELOPE of southern Africa

Harrods





**Hart-nell** /'hɑ:tnəl||'hɑ:rt-/ **Sir Norman** (1901–79) a British fashion DESIGNER who became the official dressmaker for Queen Elizabeth II

**har-um-scar-um** /,heərəm 'skeərəm/ *adj, adv old-fash infml* (behaving) wildly and thoughtlessly: *children dashing harum-scarum around the playground*

**Har-vard** /'hɑ:vəd||'hɑ:r-vəd/ Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts, the oldest and probably most famous American university, opened in 1636: *a Harvard law student*

**har-vest**<sup>1</sup> /'hɑ:vɪst||'hɑ:r-/ *n* 1 [C;U] the act or time of gathering the crops: *We all helped with the harvest.* | *It's harvest time.* 2 [C] the (size or quality of) the crops that have been gathered: *a large harvest* | *this year's excellent grape harvest* 3 [S] the results of past work or action: *The government is now reaping the harvest of its past mistakes.*

**harvest**<sup>2</sup> *v* 1 [I;T] to gather (a crop) —compare REAP 2 [T] rare to receive or suffer (the results of past work or action)

**har-vest-er** /'hɑ:vɪstə||'hɑ:r-/ *n* 1 a person who gathers the crops 2 a machine which cuts grain and gathers it in, esp. a COMBINE<sup>3</sup> (2)

**harvest fes-ti-val** /,hɑ:vɪstə'væl/ *n* (often *cap.*) esp. BrE a religious occasion when thanks are given for the crops which have been gathered, marked by services in churches, schools, etc. For the harvest festival, churches are decorated inside with fruit, vegetables and corn. —compare THANKSGIVING

**harvest home** /,hɑ:vɪstə'hoʊm/ *n* now rare a ceremonial meal given to the workers after all the crops have been gathered

**harvest moon** /,hɑ:vɪstə'mu:n/ *n* the full moon in autumn at the time when day and night are of equal length (EQUINOX)

**Har-vey** /'hɑ:vi||'hɑ:r-/ **Paul** (1918– ) an American radio personality whose **News and Comment** is heard on many different radio stations around the country

**Har-vey's** /'hɑ:vɪz||'hɑ:r-/ *n* tdmk a company which makes different types of SHERRY; Harvey's is based in Bristol and its best-known sherry is Harvey's BRISTOL CREAM

**Har-well** /'hɑ:wəl||'hɑ:r-/ a government centre for atomic RESEARCH near a village in Oxfordshire, S England with the same name

**Har-wich** /'hæritʃ, -ɪdʒ/ a port in Essex, E England which has connections by sea with Denmark, Belgium, and the Netherlands

**has** /z, əz, hæz; strong hæz/ 3rd person sing. present tense of HAVE —see NOT (USAGE)

**has-been** /'hæz-/ *n infml, derog* a person or thing that no longer has its former importance, popularity, or effectiveness: *Many pop stars are has-beens after only a few years.*

**hash**<sup>1</sup> /hæʃ/ *n* 1 [C;U] a meal containing meat cut up in small pieces, esp. when re-cooked 2 [S] something done badly or unsuccessfully; MESS: *I made a complete hash of my driving test.* —see also HASH UP 3 [C] sometimes derog old material, ideas, etc., in a new form; REHASH 4 [U] sl hashish

**hash**<sup>2</sup> *v*

**hash** sthg. ↔ **up** *phr v* [T] *infml* to do or perform (something) badly; spoil; MESS UP: *He was so nervous at the interview that he completely hashed it up.* —see also HASH<sup>1</sup> (2)

**hash browns** /,hæʃ'braʊnz/ *n* [P] potatoes which are cut into very small pieces, cooked in oil, pressed together, and eaten hot

**hash-ish** /'hæʃɪʃ, -ɪʃ/ also **hash** *sl* — *n* [U] the strongest form of the drug CANNABIS. It is the RESIN (=the hardened juice) of the Indian HEMP plant. —compare BHANG, MARIJUANA

**has-n't** /'hæzənt/ *short for:* has not: *She hasn't enough time to see you.* | *Hasn't he finished yet?*

**hasp** /hɑ:sp||hæsp/ *n* a metal fastener for a box, door, etc., which usu. fits over a hook and is kept in place by a PADLOCK

**Has-sam** /'hæsəm/, **Childe** /tʃaɪld/ (1859–1935) an American painter and printmaker whose work was influenced by Impressionism

**Has-san II** /hə'sɑ:n dɒ 'sekənd/, **King** (1929– ) the king of Morocco since 1961

**has-sle**<sup>1</sup> /'hæsəl/ *n infml* 1 [S] a situation causing difficulty or annoyance; struggle: *It's a real hassle to get the children to eat/getting the children to eat.* | *I came by bus because I couldn't be bothered with the hassle of parking.* 2 [C] esp. AmE an argument or fight

**hassle**<sup>2</sup> *v infml* 1 [T] to annoy, esp. continuously; HARASS: *I wish you would stop hassling me (about stopping smoking).* 2 [I (with)] to argue: *hassling with the umpire over a disputed point*

**has-sock** /'hæsək/ *n* 1 a small CUSHION for kneeling on in church 2 AmE for POUF (1)

**hast** /hæst/ **thou hast** *old use or bibl* (when talking to one person) you have

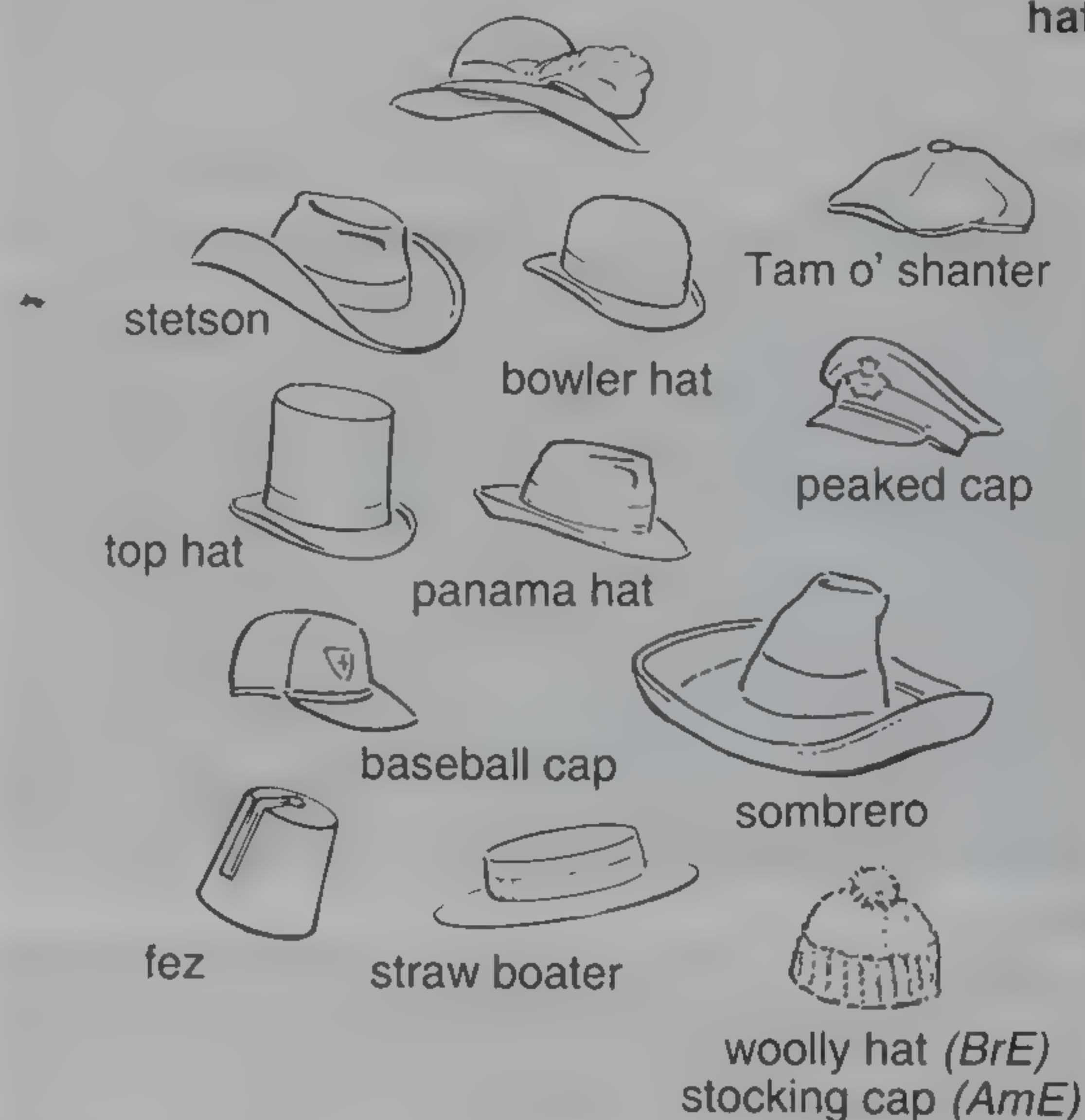
**haste** /heɪst/ *n* [U] 1 quick movement or action, esp. when one has very little time to do something; speed: *He packed his bags in haste when he heard the police were looking for him.* | (old use) *Make haste!* (=hurry) 2 too much speed, often with bad or unwanted results: *"More haste, less speed!"* (old saying) | *In his haste, he forgot to take his umbrella.*

**has-ten** /'heɪsən/ *v* 1 [I+adv/prep;T] *fml* to (cause to) move or happen fast or faster: *She hastened home.* | *The strike hastened the downfall of the government.* 2 [I+to-v] to be quick (to say something), in case the hearer imagines something else: *Some of the staff are to be dismissed, but I hasten to add you won't be among them.*

**Has-tings** /'heɪstɪŋz/ a town on the SE coast of England. The Battle of Hastings took place near Hastings. King Harold of England was defeated and killed by William the Conqueror's army in 1066.

**hast-y** /'heɪsti/ *adj* 1 done in a hurry: *a hasty meal* (=made or eaten in a hurry) 2 too quick in acting or deciding, often with bad or unwanted results; RASH: *He soon regretted his hasty decision to get married.* —ily *adv* —iness *n* [U]

## hats



**hat** /hæt/ *n* 1 a covering for the head, typically having a wide flat bottom part and a higher central part 2 **keep something under one's hat** *infml* to keep (something) secret 3 **my hat!** *old-fash* I don't believe (that) 4 **I'll eat my hat** I'll be very surprised: *If the train arrives on time I'll eat my hat.* 5 **pass the hat round** to collect money, esp. to give to someone who deserves it 6 **take one's hat off to** *infml* to express admiration for (someone): *I take my hat off to him for the superb way he organized the party.* —see also OLD HAT, bad hat (BAD<sup>1</sup> (9)), at the drop of a hat (DROP<sup>2</sup>), hang up one's hat (HANG<sup>1</sup>), to talk through one's hat (TALK<sup>1</sup>)

**hat-band** /'hætbænd/ *n* a band of cloth, leather, etc., running round a hat above the BRIM<sup>2</sup>

**hatch**<sup>1</sup> /hætʃ/ *v* 1 [I;T (OUT)] **a** (of an egg) to break, letting the young bird out: *Three eggs have already hatched (out).* **b** to cause (an egg) to hatch: *We hatch the eggs by keeping them in a warm place.* 2 [I;T (OUT)] **a** (of a young bird) to break out through an egg: *Three chicks have hatched (out).* **b** to cause (a young bird) to hatch: *She has hatched all her chickens.* 3 [T] to form (a plan) secretly,



esp. to do something bad: *They hatched a plot to murder the king.*

**hatch**<sup>2</sup> *n* 1 also **hatchway**— (the covering for) an opening in a wall, floor, etc., through which people or things can pass: *She went through the hatch to the upper deck to look at the sea.* | *There's a serving hatch between the kitchen and the dining room.* —see picture of AIRCRAFT 2 **Down the hatch!** *infml* (a phrase used before swallowing a drink)

**hatch-back** /'hætʃbæk/ *n* a car with a door at the back which opens upwards —compare ESTATE CAR, SALOON, SPORTS CAR

**hatch-er-y** /'hætʃəri/ *n* a place for hatching eggs, esp. fish eggs

**hatch-et** /'hætʃɪt/ *n* a small AXE with a short handle —see also **bury the hatchet** (BURY), and see picture at AXE

**hatchet-faced** /'hætʃfəst/ *adj* having an unpleasantly thin sharp face

**hatchet job** /'hætʃjɒb/ *n infml* a cruel attack in speech or writing: *The reviewers did a hatchet job on her latest novel.*

**hatchet man** /'hætʃmən/ *n infml* a person who is paid by someone to attack or kill an enemy, or destroy his/her REPUTATION

**hatch-ing** /'hætʃɪŋ/ *n* [U] fine lines drawn on or cut into a surface —see CROSS-HATCHING

**hatch-way** /'hætʃwei/ *n* a HATCH<sup>2</sup> (1)

**hate**<sup>1</sup> /heit/ *v* [T not in progressive forms] 1 to have a very strong dislike of; DETEST: *I hate violence.* | *They really hate each other.* | (*infml*) *I hate his guts.* (=hate him very much) 2 *infml* to dislike: *I hate cabbage.* | *I hate it when people ask me for money.* [+to-v] *She hates to be late for work.* [+v-ing] *She hates being late for work.* [+obj+to-v] *I'd hate you to think we were late on purpose.* [+obj+v-ing] *He hates people asking him for money.* —opposite love 3 [+to-v/v-ing; obj] *infml* to be sorry; REGRET: *I hate (having) to tell you this, but I've just damaged your car.*

**hate**<sup>2</sup> *n* [C;U] (a) strong dislike: *She looked at me with hate in her eyes.* | *Rock'n'roll is her pet hate.* (=something she greatly dislikes) —opposite love; see also HATRED

**hate-ful** /'heitfəl/ *adj* [(to)] very bad, unpleasant, or unkind: *Ironing shirts is a hateful job.* —~ly *adv* —~ness *n* [U]

**hate mail** /'heitmeɪl/ *n* [U] letters which contain threats, rude language, or offensive words, sent to a person in order to frighten them or make them change their behaviour: *After the rapist was caught, he received a lot of hate mail from the local community.*

**hath** /hæθ/ *old use or bibl* has

**Hath-a-way** /'hæθəwei/, Anne (1557?–1623) the wife of William Shakespeare. Her house in Stratford-upon-Avon (Anne Hathaway's Cottage) is a famous tourist attraction

**hat-pin** /'hæt,pɪn/ *n* a long, strong pin, often decorative, used to keep a woman's hat in place. Hatpins were popular in the late 19th and early 20th centuries: *She jabbed her attacker with a hatpin.*

**ha-tred** /'heɪtrɪd/ *n* [S;U (of, for)] extreme dislike; hate: *She is full of hatred for the men who killed her husband.* | *They have a hatred of bad workmanship.*

**hat-ter** /'hætə/ *n* a maker and/or seller of hats —see also as mad as a hatter (MAD (7)), MAD HATTER

**Hat-ters-ley** /'hætəzli/-tər-/ , Roy /rɔɪ/ (1932– ) a British Labour politician who was DEPUTY leader of the Labour Party from 1983 to 1992

**hat trick** /'hæt trɪk/ *n* BrE three successes of the same type in one period of activity, esp. in sports, e.g. (in cricket) when three players have been dismissed by the same person or (in football) when the same player has made three GOALS in one game: *He scored a brilliant hat trick.* | (fig.) *a hat trick of election victories*

**Hau-gh-ey** /'hɔ:hi:/ , Charles (1925– ) the PRIME MINISTER of the Republic of Ireland from 1987–1992

**haugh-ty** /'hɔ:ti/ *adj* (of people or their behaviour) seeming to consider oneself better or more important than others; ARROGANT: *a haughty look/manner/young lady* —tily *adv* —tiness *n* [U]

**haul**<sup>1</sup> /hɔ:l/ *v* 1 [I+adv/prep; T] to pull with effort or difficulty: *to haul logs* | *They hauled away on the ropes.*

*to haul up the fishing nets* | *The protesters were hauled off to jail.* | (fig.) *They hauled down the enemy's flag when they captured the city.* 2 [T] to carry (goods) in a vehicle, esp. a TRUCK 3 [T+obj+adv/prep] *infml* to force to appear before an official body, esp. a court of law; SUMMONS<sup>2</sup>: *He's been hauled (up) before the court/in front of the magistrate on a charge of dangerous driving.* —see also HAVE UP 4 **haul someone over the coals** to speak to someone angrily and severely for something they have done wrong; REPRIMAND

**haul off** *phr v* [I] AmE *sl* to raise one's arm (before hitting someone): *He hauled off and hit Pete on the jaw.*

**haul**<sup>2</sup> *n* 1 [C (of) usu. sing.] a the amount of fish caught when fishing with a net b *infml* the amount of something gained, esp. stolen or forbidden goods: *The smugglers got through customs with a huge haul of cannabis.* 2 [S] the act of hauling 3 [S] the distance over which a load is hauled: (fig.) *It was a long haul home and we arrived exhausted.* —see also LONG-HAUL

**haul-age** /'hɔ:lɪdʒ/ *n* [U] 1 the business of carrying goods by road: *road haulage* 2 the charge for this

**haul-i-er** /'hɔ:liə/ BrE || **haul-er** /'hɔ:lə/ AmE— *n* a person who runs a haulage business

**haunch** /hɔ:ntʃ/ *n* 1 [usu. pl.] the fleshy part of the human body between the waist and legs; HIP: *The men were squatting on their haunches.* 2 either of the back legs of a four-legged animal —compare HINDQUARTERS

**haunt**<sup>1</sup> /hɔ:nt/ *v* [T not in progressive forms] 1 [often pass.] (of a spirit, esp. of a dead person) to visit (a place), appearing in a strange form: *The ghost of a headless man haunts the castle.* | *a haunted house* 2 [usu. pass.] (esp. of something strange or sad) to be always in the thoughts of (someone): *I was haunted by his last words to me.* | *She had a haunted look, as if she were constantly anxious or afraid.* 3 *infml* to visit (a place) regularly; FREQUENT

**haunt**<sup>2</sup> *n* a place which a particular person visits frequently: *This pub is one of my favourite haunts.* | *The area was a haunt of criminals.*

**haunt-ing** /'hɔ:ntɪŋ/ *adj* strange in a pleasant or sad way and remaining in one's thoughts: *the haunting memory of her beautiful face* | *a haunting melody* —~ly *adv*

**haut-bois** , -boy /'əʊbɔɪ, 'həʊbɔɪ/ *n* -bois /-bɔɪz/ or -boys *old use* an OBOE

**haute cou-ture** /'əʊt ku:'tʃʊə/ || -'tuə/ *n* [U] COUTURE

**haute cui-sine** /'əʊt kwɪ:'zi:n/ *n* [U] cooking, esp. French cooking, of a very high standard: *a restaurant renowned for its haute cuisine*

**hau-teur** /əʊ'tɜ: || hɔ:'tɜ:r/ *n* [U] *fml* haughtiness (HAUGHTY)

**Ha-van-a**<sup>1</sup> /hə'vænə/ the capital of Cuba. Havana is connected in the minds of some British people with Graham Greene's book *Our Man in Havana* and the famous film made of it.

**Havana**<sup>2</sup> *n* a CIGAR made in Cuba

**have**<sup>1</sup> /v, əv, həv; strong həv/ *v* **had** /d, əd, həd; strong həd/; 3rd person sing. present tense **has** /z, əz, həz; strong həz/, negative short forms **haven't** /'hævənt/, **hasn't** /'hæzənt/, **hadn't** /'hædnt/ [auxiliary verb] 1 a (used with the past participle to form perfect tenses of verbs): *I've been reading.* | *I've written six letters today.* | *He had already been to New York earlier in the week.* | *He'll have finished by tomorrow.* | *I would have gone by car if I had known the train would be late.* | *It's silly not to have gone after having accepted the invitation.* | *He said he'd been there before.* | "Have you finished?" "No, I haven't." | *We've met before, haven't we?* b **Had (I, he, etc.)** rather *fml* if (I, he, etc.) *had*: *Had they searched more closely, they would have found what they wanted.* | *Had I known you were going to be late, I would have taken the next train.* —see NOT (USAGE) 2 **had better/best (do/not do)** ought (not) to; should (not): *I'd better tell him before he goes home.* | *We'd better not go until your sister arrives, or else she'll be angry.* | (used in giving orders or warnings) *You'd better not tell anyone about this!* 3 **have had it** *infml* a to be ruined, useless, dead, or dying: *This old TV's had it — it's time we bought a new one.* | *That plant of yours has had it, I'm afraid.* b to have experienced, worked, or suffered enough, or more than enough: *That's it, I've had it! I'm going home.* | *I've had it with all your complaining!*

**have**<sup>2</sup> also **have got**— *v* [T not in progressive forms] 1 a to possess, own, or be able to use or give: *He has a new*



car. | "Have you got a pencil?" "Yes, I have." | She's got plenty of money. | Have you got a minute (to spare)? | I'll have time to see you on Monday. | Have you got (=can you tell me) the time, please? **b** to show as part of one's character: He has a good memory/a bad temper. | She's got no imagination. **c** to contain or include as a part: He's got a big nose. | This coat has no pockets. (=There are no pockets in this coat.) | Spiders have eight legs. **2 a** to experience or be experiencing: I have bad colds every year. | I've got a bad cold now. | Have you ever had malaria? **b** [+obj+v-ing] to experience as happening in the stated way: We have reports coming into the office from all over the world. **c** [+obj+to-v] to experience the need to deal with in the stated way: I have things to do. | We've got a schedule to keep. **3** to keep or feel in the mind: Have you any doubt about his guilt? | I've got no idea what to do. Have you? | Have you got any hope of finding it? | I had a feeling we were being followed. | I'm not sure who did it, but I have my suspicions. | It's her own fault — I have no sympathy with her! **4 have coming** also **have got coming**— to deserve (esp. something bad): We weren't surprised when he lost his job — he'd had it coming (to him) for a long time. **5 I have it!** also **I've got it!**— (an expression when one suddenly sees the right way to deal with something) **6 You 'have me there** also **You've 'got me there**— *infml* **a** That's a good point against me. I will have to think again about my argument, plan, etc., because of what you said **b** I don't know: "Who won the election in 1928?" "I'm sorry: you have me there." **7 to have and to hold from this day forward** *quote* a phrase from the Christian marriage service, in which the people getting married promise to care for each other from the day they are married until they die —see also MARRIAGE

▷ **USAGE 1** The opposite of *He has a beard* is: *He hasn't got a beard*. | *He doesn't have a beard*. | *He has no beard*. Use **hasn't/haven't** only when another word comes between **have** and the noun: *I haven't (got) any money*. | *He hasn't (got) a very good temper*. **2** Both **have got** and **have** are acceptable in English, especially in cases of a permanent possession, compare: *She's got blue eyes* and *She has blue eyes* **b** questions, short answers, and negatives, compare: "Have you got a car?" "Yes I have." and "Do you have a car?" "Yes, I do." **3** **Got** is not usual in past tense forms: *She had blue eyes*. | *Did you have a car when you were a student?* **4** Do not use **got** when talking about habits or repeated experiences: "Do you ever have colds?" "Yes, I nearly always have a cold at this time of year." <

**have**<sup>3</sup> *v* [T rarely pass.] **1** [not in progressive forms] to receive or obtain: *I had some good news today*. | *We must have your answer by Friday*. | *I had a shock when I saw the size of the bill*. | *I had a win in a competition*. | *Let me have it back when you've finished with it*. | *We tried to get a copy of her book, but there was none to be had*. **2** [not in progressive forms] to show (a quality): *He had the impudence to ask me for more money*. | *She had the grace to apologize immediately*. | (pomp) *Have the goodness to answer when I ask you a question!* (shows great displeasure) **3** *infml*, esp. *BrE* || *usu.* **take** *AmE* (used esp. before a noun that has the same form as a verb) to perform the actions connected with; do (something): *Have a look at this*. | *to have a read* (=read for a while) | *BrE to have a swim/a walk/a run/a wash/a chat* | *AmE to take a swim/a walk; or go for a swim/a walk/a run; to wash; to have a chat* | *She had another sip of her tea*. —see **USAGE 4** to eat, drink, or smoke: *We were having breakfast*. | *He always has a cigarette with his coffee*. | *Have another drink, Mary* **5** [+obj+adv/prep] to have invited as a guest in the home: *We're having some people over tonight*. | *We're having guests for/to dinner*. | *When did we last have her round?* **6** [*usu. in negatives*] to (be willing to) permit; allow: *I won't have all this noise*. | *I'm not having any more of your nonsense!* [+obj+v-ing] *We can't have you going everywhere by taxi*. **7** to give birth to: *His wife has just had a baby*. | *She's having a baby in March*. **8** [+obj+to-v/v-ing] to cause (someone) to (do something): *I had John find me a house*. | *I had them all laughing at my jokes*. **9** [+obj+v-ed] to cause or arrange for (something) to be done by someone: *to have the roof fixed* | *to have one's hair cut* | *Will you have my cases sent up, please?* **10** to cause to be in the stated place or condition: [+obj+adv/prep] *Can we have our ball back, please, sir?* | *I'll have your cat down from the tree in a minute*,

*Mrs Jones* [+obj+adj] *Make sure you have the car ready by tomorrow*. | *It had me worried when I heard about your accident*. **11** [+obj+v-ed] to experience (something) as having been treated in the stated way: *I had my watch stolen last night*. | *She had her camera confiscated by the police*. **12** to enjoy or suffer; experience, often as part of a group: *We're having a party/a meeting*. | *We all had a good time*. (note the fixed phrase: **a good time was had by all**) | *We're having a bit of trouble with the car*. **13** [*usu. pass.*] *infml* to cheat; trick: *I'm afraid you've been had*. **14** [not in progressive forms] old-fash to know: *She has a little French, but not much Latin*. **15** [+obj+to-v] old use or *fml* (with **will** or **would**) to wish for: *Would you have me go home alone?* | *I would have you know that I am a person of some importance in this company!* | *What would you have me say?* **16** *sl* to perform the act of sex with (esp. someone desired but not loved) **17 have done with** to finish (something) and not do it or deal with it again: *Let's have done with all this quarrelling*. **18 have it:** **a** to say; **MAINTAIN:** *Rumour has it that they're getting divorced*. | *He will have it* (=he keeps saying very firmly, even if wrongly) *that it was my fault*. **b** to get to know something: *I had it from John*. | *I have it on good authority* (=from someone who should know) *that the election will be in June*. **19 have it 'in for** to want to be unkind to or hurt (someone) on purpose: *One of the teachers really has it in for Charlie — she shouts at him all the time*. **20 have it 'in one** *infml* to have a (hidden or unexpected) quality or ability: *We were all surprised when he won — we never knew he had it in him*. **21 have on/about one** to be carrying, esp. in a pocket or **HANDBAG:** *Have you got any money on you?* **22 have something against someone** to dislike someone because of a particular quality or a particular thing they have done: *I have nothing against her — I just don't think she's the right person for the job*. **23 not having any** *sl* not accepting; not willing to listen, take an interest in, etc.: *I tried to get her to help me with the cooking, but she wasn't having any* (*BrE*)|*wouldn't have any of that* (*AmE*).

▷ **USAGE** Nouns like *a look*, *a swim*, which are formed from verbs (*to look*, *to swim*) are used with **have** or **take**: *to take a look* | *to have a swim*. These phrases are more informal than *to look*, *to swim*. <

**have** sbdy./sthg. ↔ *in phr v* [T no pass.] **1** [not in progressive forms] also **have got in**— esp. *BrE* to have or keep a supply of (something): *Have we got enough sugar in?* **2** to call (someone) to the house to do some work: *We're having the builders in next week to improve the kitchen*.

**have** sthg. *off phr v* [T no pass.] esp. *BrE* **1** [not in progressive forms] old-fash to have learnt, ready to speak from memory: *I have the whole poem off already*. **2** **have it off (with)** *sl* to have sex (with)

**have on** *phr v* [T no pass.] **1** [not in progressive forms] (**have** sthg. ↔ **on**) also **have got on**— to be wearing (something): *He had nothing on except a hat*. **2** (**have** sbdy. **on**) also **put on** *AmE*— to trick (someone), *usu.* by pretending something that is not true; **TEASE:** *You didn't believe her, did you? She was just having you on*. **3** [not in progressive forms] (**have** sthg. **on**) also **have got on**— *infml* to have (something) to do; have promised or arranged to do (something): *I haven't got anything on tonight*. | *We've got a lot of work on at the moment*. **4** [not in progressive forms] (**have** sthg. **on** sbdy.) also **have got sthg. on** sbdy.— *infml* to have information recorded against (someone): *You can't take me to the police station, you've got nothing on me*. **5** **have nothing on** *infml* to be not nearly so good as: *Sam may have money, but for brains he has nothing on Janet*.

**have** sthg. *out phr v* [T no pass.] **1** to get (something) taken out, *usu.* a tooth or an organ of the body: *He had to go to the dentist and have the tooth out*. | *Have you had your tonsils out?* **2** [(with)] to settle (a difficulty) by talking freely and openly, or sometimes angrily: *Let's have the whole thing out*. | *I must have it out with him, and stop all this uncertainty*.

**have** sbdy. *up phr v* [T (for) *usu. pass.*] *BrE infml* to take to court: *He was had up for dangerous driving*.

**have**<sup>4</sup> *v* [+to-v] **1** also **have got**— to be forced to; must: *Do you have to go now?* | *Have you got to go now?* | *I've got to go to a meeting*. | *I hate having to get up so early*. | *It has to be done*|*It's got to be done by tomorrow*. | *I'll have to phone you later*. | *You don't have to go/haven't got to go if you don't want to*. | (*infml*) *That has to be* (=I am sure



it is) *the stupidest idea I've ever heard!* —see **MUST** (USAGE) **2 have to do with** —see **DO with** (5)

**Hav-el** /'hævel, -vəl/, **Vác-lav** /'vɑ:tslæf/ (1936– ) the president of Czechoslovakia since 1989 and a writer for the theatre. Havel was put in prison by Czechoslovakia's COMMUNIST rulers, but led a successful peaceful movement against them.

**ha-ven** /'heɪvən/ *n* **1** a place of calm and safety: *The school library is a little haven of peace and quiet.* | *safe in the haven of his mother's arms* **2** rare a HARBOUR —see also **TAX HAVEN**, **SAFE HAVEN**

**have-nots** /, 'hæv- / *n* [(the) P] the poor people in a country or society: *This government gives to the haves and ignores the have-nots.* —opposite **haves**

**have-n't** /'hævənt/ *short for:* have not: *They haven't replied to my letter.* | *Haven't I met you before?*

**hav-er-sack** /'hævəsæk||-ər-/ *n* a bag carried usu. over one shoulder when walking, esp. to hold food and clothing —compare **BACKPACK**, **RUCKSACK**

**haves** /hævz/ *n* [(the) P] the rich people in a country or society —opposite **have-nots**

**hav-oc** /'hævək/ *n* [U] widespread damage or serious disorder: *The earthquake wreaked havoc (on the city).* | *The transport strike played havoc with everyone's holiday plans.*

**Ha-vre** /'ɑ:vre/ see **LE HAVRE**

**haw**<sup>1</sup> /hɔ:z/ *v* see **hum and haw** (HUM<sup>2</sup>)

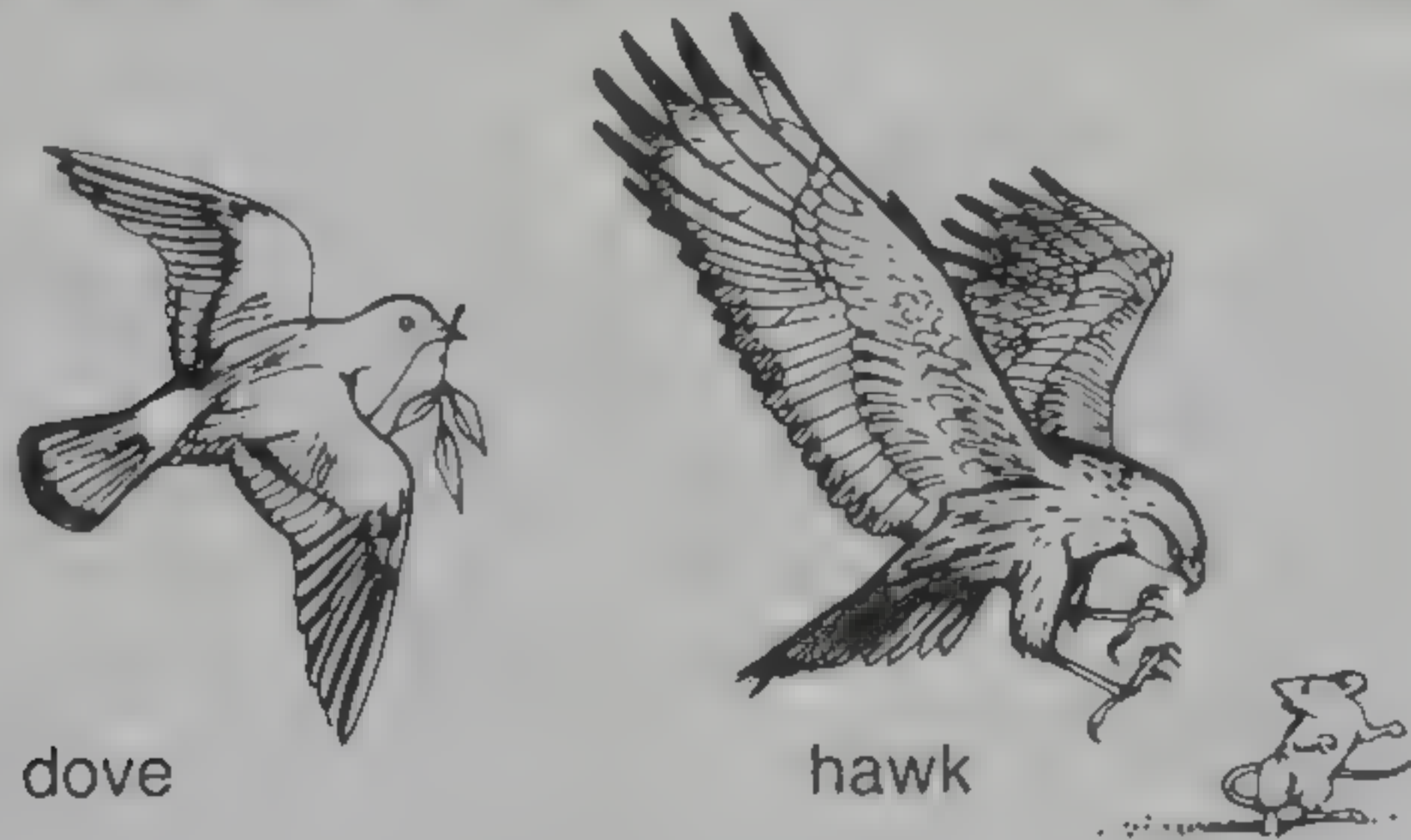
**haw**<sup>2</sup> *interj* (the sound made in a loud laugh)

**Ha-wai-i** /hə'waɪ-i/ *written abbrev. HI*— a state of the US consisting of eight main islands in the Pacific (the **Hawaiian Islands**); capital Honolulu, on the island of Oahu. It is a popular place for Americans to go on holiday. British people have a mental picture of Hawaii as a wonderfully warm place where friendly pretty girls wearing grass skirts greet visitors by placing GARLANDS of flowers, called **leis**, round their necks. —see colour map on pages 1374–5 — *an* /hə'waɪən/ *n, adj*

**Haw-Haw** /'hɔ:hɔ:/, **Lord** (1906–46) the name given to William Joyce, an Englishman who broadcast against Britain from Germany during the Second World War. He was called Lord Haw-Haw because he tried to speak in a very upper-class way. After the war he was executed (**EXECUTE**).

**Haw-ick** /'hɔ:ɪk/ a town in Scotland where woollen clothes are made and sold

hawk



dove

hawk

**hawk**<sup>1</sup> /hɔ:k/ *n* **1** a type of bird which catches other birds and small animals with its feet (**CLAWS**) for food, is active during the day, and is believed to have very good eyesight —compare **EAGLE** **2** a person who believes in strong action or the use of force, esp. one who supports warlike political ideas —opposite **dove** — *ish adj:* *a hawkish foreign policy* — *ishness n* [U]: *the hawkishness of their political views*

**hawk**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T] **1** to sell (goods) on the street or at the doors of houses, esp. while moving from place to place **2** to spread (information, ideas, etc.) around, esp. by speech: *hawking one's ideas around* — *er n*

**Hawke** /hɔ:k/, **Rob-ert** /'rɒbət||'rɑ:bərt/ (**Bob**) (1929– ) an Australian political leader and former Prime Minister

**Haw-ker Sidde-ley** /, hɔ:kə 'sɪdli/ a British company formerly producing aircraft. One of the most famous Hawker Siddeley aircraft was the Hurricane which, with the Supermarine Spitfire, played an important part in the Battle of Britain.

**hawk-eyed** /'hɔ: - / *adj lit* **1** having very good eyesight **2**

watching everything and everyone closely; very **OBSERVANT**: *hawk-eyed customs officers*

**Haw-king** /'hɔ:kɪŋ/, **Ste-phen** /'stɪ:vən/ (1942– ) an English **PHYSICIST** who wrote *A Brief History of Time* (1988)

**haw-ser** /'hɔ:zə/ *n* a thick rope or steel **CABLE** as used on a ship

**Hawks-moor** /'hɔ:ksmʊə/ , **Nicholas** (1661–1736) an English **ARCHITECT** who worked with Sir Christopher Wren on St Paul's Cathedral, and built many churches in London

**Hawn** /'hɔ:n/, **Gol-die** /'gəʊldi/ (1945– ) an American actress known esp. for appearing in **COMEDY** films

**Ha-worth** /'haʊwəθ||'hɔ:wərθ/ a small village in Yorkshire in the N of England which tourists visit because the English writers the Brontë sisters lived there. The area is described in Emily Brontë's famous book *Wuthering Heights*.

**haw-thorn** /'hɔ:θɔ:n||-ɔ:rn/ also **may**— *n* a type of tree with white or red flowers (**BLOSSOMS**) which often grows beside country roads, and has red berries in autumn

**Haw-thorne** /'hɔ:θɔ:n||-ɔ:rn/, **Na-than-i-el** /nə'θæniəl/ (1804–64) an American writer of **NOVELS** and short stories whose most famous novel is *The Scarlet Letter*

**hay** /heɪ/ *n* [U] **1** grass which has been cut and dried, esp. for using as cattle food **2** **make hay** to dry grass in the sun **3** **make hay while the 'sun shines** *infml* to make good use of chances —see also **hit the hay** (HIT<sup>1</sup>) — *making n* [U]

**hay-cock** /'heɪkɒk||-kɔ:k/ *n* now rare a small, usu. round pile of hay, ready to be taken out of the field

**Hay-dn** /'haɪdn/, **Joseph** (1732–1809) an Austrian writer of music (**COMPOSER**) whose works are very popular and frequently performed. His *Creation* is sung very often by choral societies (**CHORAL SOCIETY**).

**Hayes** /heɪz/, **Ruth-er-ford Bir-chard** /'rʌðəfəd 'bɜ:tfəd||-ðərfəd 'bɜ:rtfəd/ (1822–93) the 19th president of the US (1877–81)

**hay fe-ver** /'hɔ: - / *n* [U] an illness rather like a bad cold, but caused by **POLLEN** (=dust from plants) which is breathed in from the air

**hay-fork** /'heɪfɔ:k||-fɔ:rk/ *n* a long-handled fork with two points (**PRONGS**), used for turning over hay in the field or for gathering it

**Hay-mar-ket** /'heɪmɑ:kɪt||-mɑ:r-/ [*the*] a street in the West End of London where there is a theatre also called **The Haymarket**

**hay-ride** /'heɪraɪd/ *n* *AmE* **1** a night-time ride in an open **CART** filled with **HAY**, in which young men and women get to know each other better **2** **no hayride** *infml* humor not easy or enjoyable: *"How was your weekend with the in-laws?" "It was no hayride."*

**hay-stack** /'heɪstæk/ also **hay-rick** /-rɪk/— *n* a large pile of hay gathered, usu. outdoors, for storing —see also **needle in a haystack** (**NEEDLE**<sup>1</sup>)

**Hay-wain** /'heɪweɪn/ [*the*] a famous painting by John Constable which is in the National Gallery in London —see colour picture on page 1016

**Hay-ward Gal-le-ry** /'heɪwəd ,gæləri||-wərd-/ [*the*] an art **GALLERY** on London's South Bank

**hay-wire** /'heɪwaɪə/ *adj* [F] *infml* in a state of disorder and confusion: *The computer's gone haywire — it's printing numbers at random.* | *Our plans have (all) gone haywire since the rail strike.*

**haz-ard**<sup>1</sup> /'hæzəd||-ərd/ *n* **1** [(to)] something likely to cause damage or loss; a danger or risk: *a hazard to health* | *There are many serious health hazards associated with smoking. That big box of papers is a fire hazard.* (=something that increases the risk of fire) **2** a difficult move or place in certain games or sports **3** **in/at hazard** at risk; in danger

**hazard**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T] *fml* **1** to offer (a suggestion, a guess, etc.) when there is a risk of being wrong or saying something unwelcome; **VENTURE**: *Would you care to hazard a guess as to how many people will come?* **2** *fml* to risk; put in danger: *He hazarded all his money in the attempt to save the business.*

**haz-ard-ous** /'hæzədəs||-zər-/ *adj* (esp. of an activity) which contains risks or danger: *a hazardous occupation/ journey/route* — *ly adv*



**hazardous waste** /ˌhæzədəs ˈweɪst/ *n* [U] waste which contains harmful chemicals or RADIOACTIVE materials

**hazard warn-ing lights** /ˌhæzəd ˈwɜːnɪŋ laɪts/ *n* [P] special lights on a car or other road vehicle which can be made to flash to warn other drivers if there has been an accident or if the vehicle is parked in a dangerous place

**Haz-chem** /ˈhæzəkem/ *BrE* a written sign placed as a warning on the outside of buildings and containers which have dangerous chemicals inside

**haze**<sup>1</sup> /heɪz/ *n* 1 [S;U] a light mist or smoke: *I could hardly see her through the haze of cigarette smoke.* | *a heat haze in the distance* 2 [S] a feeling of confusion or uncertainty in the mind —see also HAZY

**haze**<sup>2</sup> *v* [I (OVER)] to become hazy: *The sky hazed over at the end of the day.*

**haze**<sup>3</sup> *v* [T] *AmE* 1 to make (someone) worried or uncomfortable by forcing them to do unpleasant work or by saying unpleasant things about them; HARASS 2 to play tricks on (a young college student) as part of the ceremony of joining a club or FRATERNITY (4). Hazing used to be common in military schools, but now is rare and forbidden by the schools.

**ha-zel**<sup>1</sup> /ˈheɪzəl/ *n* 1 [C] a small tree or bush that bears nuts which can be eaten 2 [U] the wood of this tree 3 also **hazelnut** the nut of this tree, which is good to eat —see picture at NUT

**hazel**<sup>2</sup> *adj* having a light brown or greenish brown colour: *She has hazel eyes.* —**hazel** *n* [U]

**ha-zel-nut** /ˈheɪzəlˌnʌt/ also **filbert** *AmE* — *n* HAZEL<sup>1</sup> (3)

**Haz-litt** /ˈhæzlɪt/, **William** (1778–1830) an English writer and CRITIC whose works include the collection of ESSAYS called *Table Talk*

**haz-y** /ˈheɪzi/ *adj* 1 misty; rather cloudy: *The mountains were hazy in the distance.* 2 unclear; uncertain: *I'm rather hazy about the details of the arrangement.* —*ily* *adv* —*iness* *n* [U]

**HB** /ˌeɪtʃ ˈbiː/ *adj* (on a British pencil) having a centre between hard and soft. The letters stand for hard-black.

**H-Block** /ˈeɪtʃ blɒk/ -blæk/ a large building, shaped like a letter H, which is part of the Maze Prison in Northern Ireland where members of the IRA and other violent political organizations are kept. In 1980, a group of IRA prisoners went on HUNGER STRIKE because they were not treated as political prisoners, and some of them died in 1981.

**HBO** /ˌeɪtʃ biː ˈəʊ/ *n* see HOME BOX OFFICE

**H-bomb** /ˈeɪtʃ bɒm/ -bɑːm/ *n* a HYDROGEN BOMB

**HCF** /ˌeɪtʃ sɪː ˈef/ *abbrev. for:* highest common factor —see FACTOR (2)

**HDTV** /ˌeɪtʃ ˌdɪː tiː ˈviː/ *abbrev. for* HIGH-DEFINITION TELEVISION

**he**<sup>1</sup> /i, hi; strong hi/ *pron* (used as the subject of a sentence) 1 that male person or animal already mentioned: *“Where’s John?” “He’s gone to the cinema.”* | *Be careful of that dog — he sometimes bites.* 2 (with general meaning): *Everyone should do what he considers best.* —compare THEY (4) 3 **he who** *fml* or *lit* the person who: *“He who laughs last laughs longest.”* (saying)

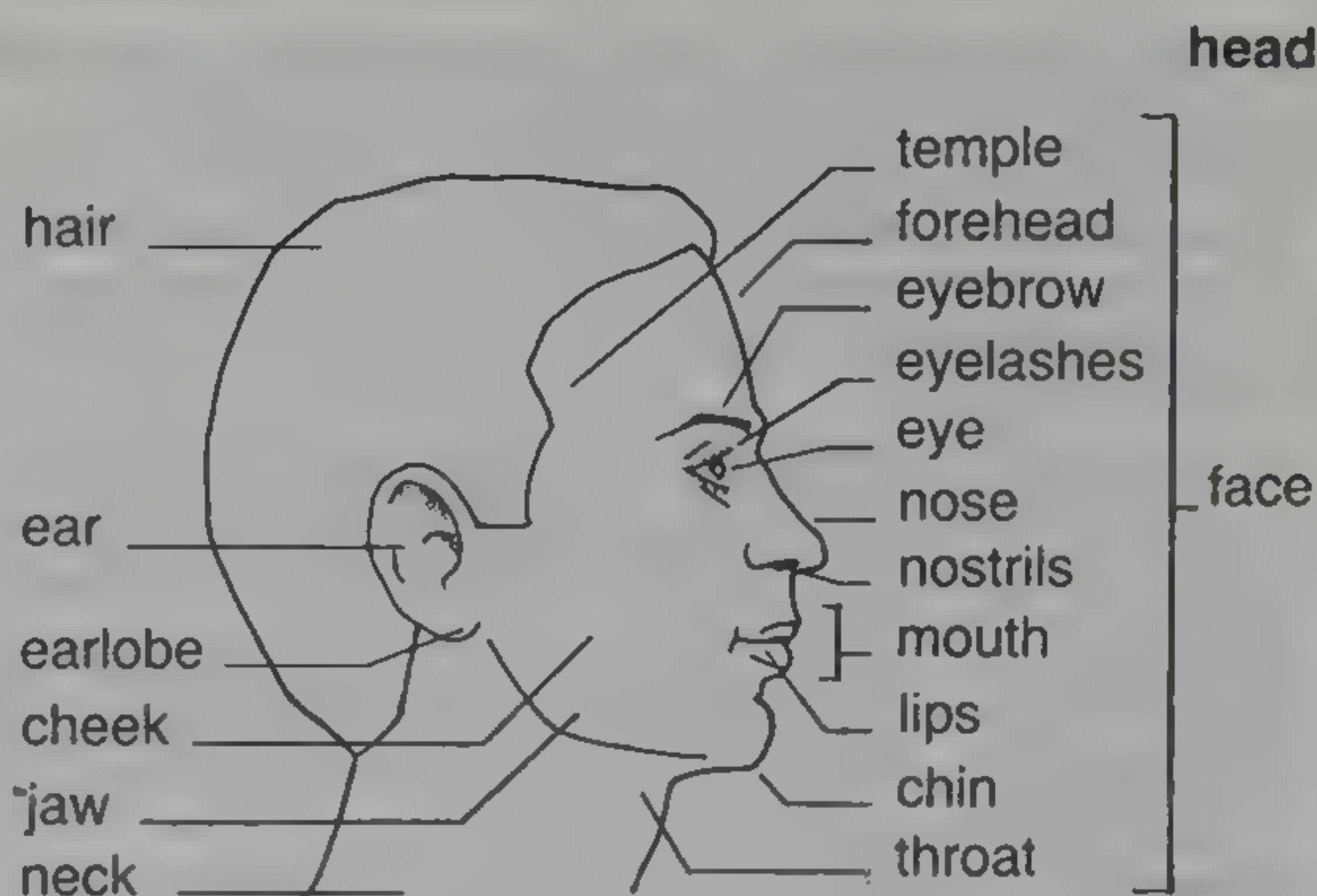
▷ **USAGE** Some people, especially women, do not like the use of **he** with a general meaning. Instead they use **he** or **she**, **she** or **he** or **they**: *Everyone should do what he or she thinks best.* | *Everyone should do what they think best.* In writing, **he/she** is commonly used, or **s/he** (especially in American English).◀

**he**<sup>2</sup> /hiː/ *n* a male: *Is your dog a he or a she?*

**he-** see WORD FORMATION

**H.E.** *n abbrev. for* His Excellency or Her Excellency (used before the name of an important official such as an AM-BASSADOR to show their rank)

**head**<sup>1</sup> /hed/ *n* 1 [C] a the part of the body which contains the eyes, ears, nose, and mouth, and the brain: *She nodded her head in agreement.* | *They looked him over from head to foot.* | *The children were standing on their heads.* | *His crimes cost him his head.* (=it was cut off) **b** (in humans) the part of the head above and behind the eyes: *My head aches.* | *I hit my head on the low ceiling.* 2 [(the) S (of)] the end where the head rests: *at the head of the bed/the grave* 3 [C] the mind or brain: *Can’t you get it into your head* (=understand) *that the adjective*



*comes before the noun, not after it.* | *His heart rules his head.* (=He is influenced more by feeling than by reason.) | *He just stood there watching; it never entered his head to help me.* | *He suddenly took it into his head* (=decided, esp. foolishly) *to buy a big new car.* | *What was it that put the idea into your head?* | *Two heads are better than one.* (=A problem or job is easier to deal with if it is shared with someone else.) 4 [C *usu. sing.*] *infml, esp. BrE* a headache: *I’ve got a bad head.* 5 [S (for)] a ability of the stated kind; APTITUDE: *She has a good business head.* | *I haven’t got much of a head for figures.* **b** the power to be in control of oneself; COMPOSURE: *to keep one’s head in a crisis* | *She managed to keep a cool head/a clear head in a difficult situation.* | *I haven’t got much of a head for heights.* (=an ability to be in a high place without being frightened) 6 [S] a measure of height or distance equal to a head: *He is half a head taller than his brother.* | *The horse won the race by a short head.* (=by only a small amount) 7 **a** [S] a person (esp. in the phrase ... **a/per head**): *It costs about £10 a head to eat there.* | *I did a quick head count and discovered that one member of the class was missing.* **b** (*pl. head*) [C *usu. pl.*] (used in counting animals, esp. cattle) an animal: *three thousand head (of cattle)* 8 [C (of)] someone who is in control of a place, organization, etc.; a ruler or leader: *the head of the English department/the family* | *heads of state/of government* | *the head waiter* 9 *BrE* a head teacher in a school: *The head’s busy at the moment.* 10 [(the) S (of)] a part at the top of an object (esp. of a tool) which is different or separate from the body: *the head of a hammer* | *the head of the nail* —see picture at TOOL 11 [(the) S (of)] a the top of a page: *I put my address at the head of the letter.* **b** the top or front; the highest or furthest point: *I waited at the head of the queue.* | *officers marching at the head of a column of soldiers* 12 [C] the title at the top of a piece of writing; HEADING 13 [C] the top part of some plants, esp. when several leaves or flowers grow together there: *The heads of the flowers were blown off in the storm.* | *heads of lettuce* 14 [C] the white FROTH on the top of drinks such as beer: *a beer with a good head on it* 15 [(the) S (of)] the upper part or end: *the head of the lake* | *at the head of the stairs* 16 [C] (esp. in names) a HEADLAND: *Beachy Head* 17 [the (of)] the most important place: *sitting at the head of the table* 18 [C] the white or black centre of a swollen spot on the skin (a BOIL or PIMPLE) when it is about to burst 19 [S (of)] the pressure or force produced by a body of water or by a quantity of steam 20 *taboo sl* ORGASM or sexual pleasure 21 [C] *tech* (in grammar) the word in a group of words that is its central part and that is used in the same way as the whole group: *The word “man” is the head of the noun phrases “an old man” and “the man in the street”.* 22 [C] also **magnetic head** — **a** the part of a TAPE RECORDER which records sound **b** the part of a computer that reads and writes DATA 23 **above someone’s head** beyond someone’s ability to understand; too difficult 24 **an old head on young shoulders** (a young person who has) the sensible behaviour of an experienced person 25 **bang/bash/beat/hit/knock one’s head against a brick wall** to waste one’s effort or hurt oneself by trying to do something impossible: *Trying to get that class to learn anything is just banging your head against a brick wall!* 26 **bring/come to a head** to bring to a point where something must be done or decided: *The assassination of the president brought matters to a head.* 27 **eat/talk/shout, etc., one’s head off** *infml* to eat/talk/shout, etc. repeatedly, for a long time, loudly, etc.: *She laughed her head*



off when I told her what had happened. **28** give someone their head *BrE* to allow someone freedom to do as they like **29** go to someone's head: **a** to make someone drunk; INTOXICATE **b** to over-excite someone: *The thrill of watching the race had gone to his head — he was jumping up and down and screaming.* **c** to make someone too proud or CONCEITED: *I hope her new important job won't go to her head.* **30** have one's 'head in the clouds to be extremely impractical; not act according to the realities of life **31** have/bury one's head in the sand to refuse to think about an unpleasant situation **32** have one's 'head screwed on *infml* *apprec* to be sensible and practical **33** head and shoulders above very much better than: *This book is/stands head and shoulders above all the others on the subject.* **34** head over heels: **a** turning over in the air headfirst **b** completely; uncontrollably: *head over heels in love* **35** Heads will roll certain people will be punished (said when a serious mistake has been made) **36** keep one's head to remain calm in a difficult situation or an EMERGENCY: *She kept her head and put a damp blanket over the flames.* **37** keep one's head above water: **a** to be only just able to live on one's income **b** to be only just able to keep going, working, etc. **38** lose one's head to suddenly lose one's calmness and self-control **39** not be able to make head or tail of to be unable to understand; be completely confused by **40** off one's head *infml* mad; CRAZY: *He must be off his head to go jogging in this weather!* **41** out of one's head *sl* behaving as if mad, esp. when under the influence of a drug or alcohol **42** over someone's head: **a** beyond someone's ability to understand: *The lecture was a bit over their heads.* **b** without first talking to or getting the permission of someone of lower rank: *He went over the captain's head to complain to the general.* —compare OVERHEAD **43** put our/your/their heads together to think out a plan with other people **44** take it into one's head to... to suddenly get a silly but firm idea to... **45** talk one's head off to talk a great deal **46** turn someone's head: **a** to make someone too proud or CONCEITED: *Success had not turned his head.* **b** to make someone fall in love: *Her beauty had quite turned his head.* **47** two heads are better than one saying two people thinking together can find an answer to a problem more easily than one person thinking alone **48** -headed /hedɪd/ **a** having a head or heads of the stated type or number: *a three-headed monster* | *red-headed* (=having red hair) **b** having a mind or brain of the stated type: *empty-headed* (=stupid) | *level-headed* (=calm and not easily upset) | *clear-headed* (=able to think clearly) —see also HEADS, SWOLLEN HEAD, bite someone's head off (BITE<sup>1</sup>), knock something on the head (KNOCK<sup>1</sup>), standing on one's head (STAND<sup>1</sup>)

**head**<sup>2</sup> *v* **1** [T (UP)] **a** to lead; be at the front of: *The president's car headed the procession.* **b** to be in charge of: *a commission of inquiry headed by Lord Scarman* | *The sales director heads a team of 20 representatives.* **2** [I+adv/prep] to move in a certain direction: *After the battle, the army headed back towards Rome.* | *We're heading home.* **3** [T] to strike (a ball) with the head, esp. in football: *He headed it into the goal.* **4** [T] to be at the top of; provide a HEADING for: [+obj+adj/n] *The memorandum was headed "Confidential".*

**head for** sthg. *phr v* [T] to move towards; go to: *"Where are you heading for/headed for?" "Manchester."* | *After the play we all headed for the bar.* | (fig.) *You're heading for trouble/headed for an accident if you drive after drinking.* | (fig.) *The company seems to be heading for bankruptcy.* —compare ASK for

**head** sbdy./sthg. ↔ **off** *phr v* [T] **1** to cause to change direction by moving in front of: *They were running towards the house, but we headed them off at the gate.* **2** to prevent (something unwanted); FORESTALL: *The company changed its plans in order to head off a rebellion by shareholders.*

**head-ache** /'hedeɪk/ *n* **1** a pain in the head: *I always get headaches after reading.* | *I've got a bad headache.*

► **CULTURAL NOTE** Saying that one has a headache is a well-known excuse for not having sex, and is often mentioned in jokes. —see ACHE (USAGE) ◀

**2** *infml* a difficult or worrying problem: *Trying to make the children eat is one big headache!* —**achy** *adj infml*: *a headachy feeling* | *feeling headachy* —see also SICK HEADACHE

**Head and Shoulders** /, · · '· · / *n* [P;U] *tdmk* a type of SHAMPOO which is made by Procter & Gamble Ltd and which is used to remove DANDRUFF as well as to clean the hair

**head-band** /'hedbænd/ *n* a band worn around the head, usu. to keep the hair back from the face, typically worn by tennis players

**head-bang** /'hedbæŋ/ *v* [I] to move one's head violently backwards and forwards to the beat of HEAVY METAL music

**head-bang-er** /'hed,bæŋə/ *n* *BrE sl* **1** a person who headbangs **2** a person who behaves in a stupid or mad way: *headbangers who drive at 90 miles an hour in the fog*

**head-board** /'hedbɔ:d||-bɔ:rd/ *n* an upright board forming the HEAD (=the top end) of a bed

**head boy** /, · · '· · / *n* the most important boy in a school, chosen to lead a team of older boys (PREFECTS) in controlling the younger ones, and to represent the school on public occasions

**head-cheese** /'hedʃi:z/ *n* [U] *AmE* for BRAWN (2)

**head-dress** /'hed-dres/ *n* a covering that decorates the head: *The Indian chief wore a feathered headdress.*

**head-ed** /'hedɪd/ *adj* having a LETTERHEAD: *She wrote on headed notepaper.*

**head-er** /'hedə/ *n* *BrE* **1** a fall or a jump into water (DIVE), with the head going down before the feet **2** (in football) an act of striking the ball with the head **3** also **header tank** a TANK in a car's engine into which water is put to keep up the correct water pressure in the car's RADIATOR —see picture at ENGINE

**head-first** /,hed'fɜ:st·||-3:rst·/ *adj, adv* **1** (moving) with the rest of the body following the head: *I fell headfirst down the stairs/into the water* **2** (done) with unthinking speed: *He's gone headfirst into trouble again.*

**head-gear** /'hedgɪə/ *n* [U] (a) covering for the head: *They issued caps, berets, helmets, and other types of headgear to the rescue party.*

**head girl** /, · · '· · / *n* the most important girl in a British school, chosen to lead a team of older girls (PREFECTS) in controlling the younger ones, and to represent the school on public occasions

**head-hunt-er** /'hed,hʌntə/ *n* **1** a person who cuts off his enemies' heads and keeps them **2** *infml* a person who tries to attract specially able people to jobs, esp. by offering them better pay and more responsibility —**headhunt** *v* [T]

**head-ing** /'hedɪŋ/ *n* the words written as a title at the top of a piece of writing, or at the top of each part of it

**head-lamp** /'hedlæmp/ *n* *old-fash* HEADLIGHT

**head-land** /'hedlənd/ *n* an area of land running out from the coast into the sea; PROMONTORY

**head-less** /'hedləs/ *adj* without a head: *The headless body of a man was found in the woods.*

**Headless Horse-man** /, · · '· · / [the] (in ghost stories) a headless man who rides a horse, esp. in the story *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow* by Washington Irving —see colour picture on page 620

**head-light** /'hedlaɪt/ also **head-lamp** /-læmp/ *old-fash— n* [often *pl.*] a powerful light, usu. one of a pair fixed at the front of a vehicle —compare SIDELIGHT, and see picture at CAR

**head-line**<sup>1</sup> /'hedləɪn/ *n* **1** the heading printed in large letters above a story in a newspaper: *The new road plan is in the headlines again.* **2** [usu. *pl.*] a main point of the news, as read on radio or television: *The time is 12 o'clock: here are the news headlines.* —see also **hit the headlines** (HIT<sup>1</sup>)

**headline**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T] **1** to give a headline to: *The newspaper headlined the changes in the government.* **2** to direct attention to; bring to notice **3** *AmE* to be the leading performer in: *Frank Sinatra headlines tonight's show.*

**head-long** /'hedlɒŋ||-lɔ:ŋ/ *adv, adj* **1** (done) with foolish or unthinking speed: *They rushed headlong into marriage.* **2** (happening) quickly, suddenly, and without control: *a headlong descent into anarchy and disorder* **3** HEADFIRST (1)

**head-man** /'hedmən/ *n* -men /mən/ a chief, esp. of a tribal village



- head-mas-ter** /ˌhedˈmɑːstər/ || ˌhedˈmæstər/ *BrE* || **principal** *AmE*— *n* the male teacher in charge of a school
- head-mis-tress** /ˌhedˈmɪstrɪs/ || ˌhedˈmɪstrɪs/ *BrE* || **principal** *AmE*— *n* the female teacher in charge of a school
- head of hair** /ˌhɛd ˈoʊ ˈhɛər/ *n* [S] *apprec* a thick mass of hair on a person's head: *She has a beautiful/fine/thick head of hair.*
- head of state** /ˌhɛd ˈoʊ ˈstet/ *n* (often caps.) the formal leader of a state, e.g. the Queen in Britain, as opposed to the head of government, e.g. the Prime Minister in Britain
- head-on** /ˌhɛd ˈoʊ ˈn/ *adv, adj* with the head or front parts meeting, usu. violently: *The cars collided head-on.* | *a head-on collision* | (fig.) *The government and the unions are set for a head-on confrontation.*
- head-phones** /ˈhedfəʊnz/ *n* [P] a piece of equipment made to fit over the ears so that a person can receive radio messages, listen to recordings, etc.: *listening to the music on (a pair of) headphones*
- head-piece** /ˈhedpiːs/ *n* **1** something which fits closely over the head, such as the HELMET of a suit of armour **2** (in printing) a decorative heading at the top of a page or piece of writing
- head-quar-ters** /ˈhedˌkwɔːtəz, ˌhedˈkwɔːtəz/ || -ɔːrtəz/ (*abbrev. HQ*) *n* -ters [C+*sing./pl. v.*] the central office or place where the people work who control a large organization, such as the police or army or a private company: *Our headquarters is/are in Geneva.*
- head-rest** /ˈhed-rest/ *n* **1** something which supports the head, usu. a suitably shaped part of the back of a chair or of a front seat in a car **2** *AmE* for HEAD RESTRAINT
- head re-straint** /ˌhɛd ˈriːstreɪnt/ *BrE* || **headrest** *AmE*— *n* a piece fitted on to the top of a front seat in a car to prevent a person's neck being injured in an accident
- head-room** /ˈhed-rum, -ruːm/ *n* [U] **1** the amount of space above a vehicle passing under a bridge, through a TUNNEL, etc.: *not enough headroom* **2** the amount of space above the heads of the passengers in a vehicle: *The new car has very generous headroom.*
- heads** /hedz/ *n* [U] **1** the front side of a coin, which often has the head of a king, queen, president, etc. on it **2** **Heads or tails?** (a question someone asks when they Toss a coin to decide something) **3** **Heads I win, tails you lose** *humor* (used to describe a situation in which the person being spoken to cannot win)
- head-scarf** /ˈhedskɑːf/ || -ɑːrf/ also **scarf**, **headsquare** *n* -scarfs or -scarves /-skɑːvz/ || -skɑːrvz/ a square piece of cloth folded from one corner to the opposite one, worn on the head and tied under the chin. In Britain and the US headscarves are no longer fashionable, and are worn esp. by older upper-class women.
- head-set** /ˈhedset/ *n* HEADPHONES, often with a connected MICROPHONE
- head-ship** /ˈhedʃɪp/ *n* [C;U] **1** *BrE* the position or period in office of a HEADMASTER or HEADMISTRESS: *She's applied for a headship at a big London school.* **2** the position or period in office of a person in charge of an organization
- head-shrink-er** /ˈhedˌʃrɪŋkər/ *n* *humor* a PSYCHOANALYST
- head-stand** /ˈhedstænd/ *n* an act of supporting the body upside down, with the head on the floor or ground and the feet in the air, using the hands for balance: *Can you do a headstand?*
- head start** /ˌhɛd ˈstɑːrt/ *n* [S (over, on)] an advantage, esp. in a race or competition: *She's got a head start over her friends who are learning French, because she has already lived in France for a year.*
- head-stone** /ˈhedstəʊn/ *n* a stone which marks the top end of a grave, usu. having the buried person's name on it; GRAVESTONE
- head-strong** /ˈhedstrɒŋ/ || -strɔːŋ/ *adj* determined to do what one wants in spite of all advice
- heads up** /ˌhɛd ˈʊp/ *interj infml* (used as a warning of danger coming from above) put your heads up and see what is coming: *Heads up — here comes the ball!*
- head ta-ble** /ˌhɛd ˈteɪbəl/ *n* *AmE* for TOP TABLE
- head teach-er** /ˌhɛd ˈtiːtʃər/ || **principal** *AmE*— *n* the teacher who is in charge of a school; a HEADMASTER or HEADMISTRESS: *J. Beilby Smith, leader of the Head Teachers' Association*
- head wait-er** /ˌhɛd ˈweɪtər/ *n* the person in charge of WAITERS (=people who bring food to the tables in a restaurant)
- head-way** /ˈhedweɪ/ *n* **make headway** to advance or gain good results in dealing with a difficulty: *They're trying to reduce expenditure by 10% but they're not making much headway.*
- head-wind** /ˈhedˌwɪnd/ *n* a wind coming from in front and blowing directly against one
- head-word** /ˈhedwɜːd/ || -wɜːrd/ *n* the word which is written at the beginning of a description of its meaning, esp. in dictionaries: *The next headword is "heady".*
- head-y** /ˈhedɪ/ *adj* **1** (of alcohol and its effects) tending to make people drunk, GIDDY, etc. **2** giving or having a feeling of lightness and excitement: *heady with success* | *On the last day of term there was a heady atmosphere of excitement and relief.*
- heal** /hiːl/ *v* **1** [I (OVER, UP)] (of a wounded part of the body) to become healthy again, esp. to grow new skin: *The cut will soon heal up/heal over.* **2** [T (of)] *fml* or *old use* to make (a person or part of the body) healthy again; CURE: *This ointment will help to heal the wound.* | *He was healed of his sickness.* | *The leader tried to heal the divisions within his party.* —see also FAITH HEALING
- heal-er** /ˈhiːlə/ *n* a person who has, or is thought to have, the power to heal others
- Hea-ley** /ˈhiːli/, **Den-is** /ˈdenɪs/ (1917– ) a British politician who was the Labour Minister of Defence in the 1960s and Chancellor of the Exchequer (=finance minister) in the 1970s
- healing touch** /ˌhiːlɪŋ ˈtʌtʃ/ [the] the power to heal people by touching them: *The King was formerly thought to have the healing touch.* | (fig.) *She put my car right in next to no time—she's definitely got the healing touch!*
- Heal's** /hiːlz/ a large shop in London which sells good quality modern furniture
- health** /helθ/ *n* **1** [U] the state of being well in the body and mind, and free from disease: *Health is more important to me than money.* | *physical/mental health* **2** [U] the condition of the body with regard to disease: *in poor health* | *I've always enjoyed (=had) good health.* | *Cigarette smoking damages your health.* **3** [C;U] (before drinking) (a wish for) someone's success and continued freedom from illness (esp. in the phrases **drink someone's health**, **Your (good) health!**) —see also BILL OF HEALTH, DRINK<sup>1</sup> (3), NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE
- health and safe-ty** /ˌhɛlθ ˌænd ˈseɪti/ *n* an area of British government and law concerned with people's health and safety, esp. at work. **Health and safety inspectors** visit factories, offices, restaurants, etc. to check that the law is being obeyed, and many institutions have their own **health and safety officer**.
- Health and Safe-ty at Work Act** /ˌhɛlθ ˌænd ˈseɪti ˌæt wɜːk ˈækt/ [the] a set of laws made in Britain in 1974 in order to protect people at work and make sure that they do not have to work in dangerous conditions or without proper clothing, etc.
- Health and Safe-ty Com-mis-sion** /ˌhɛlθ ˌænd ˈseɪti ˌkɒmɪʃən/ [the] a British organization which, since 1974, has been responsible for making sure that people do not have to work in dangerous conditions, esp. in industry
- Health and Safe-ty Ex-ec-u-tive** /ˌhɛlθ ˌænd ˈseɪti ˌɛkɪtɪv/ also **HSE** *abbrev.*— [the] a British government organization with powers to advise on and control standards of health and safety at work
- health care** /ˈhelθ ˌkeə/ *n* [U] the process of looking after people's health, including medical treatment and advice on how to stay healthy. In Britain, health care is provided partly by the National Health Service and partly by PRIVATE MEDICINE.
- health cen-tre** /ˈhelθ ˌtɜːntər/ *n* in Britain, a building where several doctors work and a person can go to see their doctor or to have treatment from a nurse
- health club** /ˈhelθ ˌklʌb/ *n* a privately owned place with special equipment where people can go to take exercise. In the 1980s exercising to be healthy became fashionable in Britain, and many health clubs were established. It is usu. quite expensive to be a member. In the US, the fashion of health clubs goes back to the 1970s.
- health farm** /ˈhelθ ˌfɑːm/ *n* an establishment, usu. in the country, where rich or fashionable people go when they want to lose weight



**health food** /'hɜːlθ fʊd/ *n* [C;U] (a kind of) food that is believed to be good for health, esp. food that is in the natural state, without added chemicals: *Is there a health food shop in town?*

► **CULTURAL NOTE** For some people health food is very important and a very good thing. Other people laugh at people who eat it and say that they are **CRANKS** (= people who hold silly ideas very strongly). —compare **JUNK FOOD** ◀

**health-ful** /'helθfəl/ *adj* *old-fash or lit* likely to produce good health: *the healthful mountain air*

**health in-su-rance** /'hɜːlθ ɪnsʊrəns/ *n* [U] a contract with an insurance company which promises that if a person pays a regular amount of money usu. each month, the insurance company will pay all or most of any medical bills if that person becomes ill or is hurt in an accident. Because there is no national health service in the US, medical care is extremely expensive. Most people have some kind of health insurance, which is partly paid by their employer or by a family member's employer —compare **HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATION**, **LIFE INSURANCE**

**health main-te-nance or-gan-i-za-tion** also **HMO** *abbrev.* /'hɜːlθ maɪntənəns ɔːrɡənɪzaʃən/ *n* (in the US) a hospital or group of hospitals run by one organization in order to treat paying members of that organization. People who are members may go to any of those hospitals for treatment when they are ill. —compare **HEALTH INSURANCE**

**Health Min-is-ter** /'hɜːlθ maɪnɪstə/ *n* the member of the British government who is the head of the Department of Health

**Health Ser-vice** /'hɜːlθ sɜːvɪs/ [*the*] the British **NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE**

**health vis-it-or** /'hɜːlθ vɪzɪtə/ *n* (in Britain) a nurse whose job is to visit people in their homes and give them advice. Health visitors work mainly with women who have just had a baby, old people, and people who have a physical disability.

**health-y** /'helθi/ *adj* **1** physically strong and not often ill; usually in good health: *healthy children* | (fig.) *The country's economy is not very healthy.*

► **CULTURAL NOTE** In Britain and the US, it has become fashionable to take plenty of exercise, to eat **WHOLEFOODS**, to avoid food containing **E NUMBER** chemicals, and to lose weight. People who are very careful about their health are popularly called **health freaks**, and jokes sometimes suggest that health freaks do not have much fun, esp. because the food they eat is simple and does not contain fat, sugar, or other unhealthy but enjoyable things. ◀

**2 a** likely to produce good health: *healthy seaside air* **b** good for the mind or character: *That book is not healthy reading for a child.* **3 a** showing good health: *a clear healthy skin* | *a healthy appetite* —opposite **unhealthy**: **b** showing a good or favourable condition: *healthy profits from our overseas operations* **c** showing a strong or sensible character; natural: *The children have a healthy dislike of school/a healthy disrespect for these silly rules.* —*ily adv* —*iness n* [U]

**Hea-ney** /'hiːni/, **Sea-mus** /'seɪməs/ (1939– ) an Irish poet. His collections of poems include *Death of a Naturalist* and *Seeing Things*.

**heap¹** /hiːp/ *n* [(of)] **1** a disorderly pile or mass of things one on top of the other: *The books lay in a heap on the floor.* | *a heap of dirty clothes waiting to be washed* | *a heap of sand/leaves* **2** [often *pl.*] *infml* a lot: *We have heaps of time.* | *a whole heap of trouble* **3 be struck/knocked all of a heap** *old-fash infml* to be very surprised or confused —see **PILE** (**USAGE**), and see picture at **PILE**

**heap² v** **1** [T+obj+adv/prep] to pile up in large amounts: *Some old furniture had been heaped up in the corner.* [+obj+with] *He heaped the plate with food.* [+obj+on] *He heaped food on the plate.* | *a heaped tablespoonful of flour* **2 heap praises on/upon** to give a lot of praise to

**hear** /hɪə/ *v* **heard** /hɜːd/ **1** [I;T not in progressive forms] to receive (sounds) with the ears: *I heard a funny noise in the middle of the night.* | *I can't hear very well.* [+obj+to-v-v] *I heard her say so.* | (*fml*) *He was heard to observe that he did not agree with the verdict.* [+obj+v-ing] *I can hear someone knocking.* —compare **LISTEN**; see **CAN¹** (**USAGE**), **SEE** (**USAGE**) **2** [T not usu. in progressive forms] to be told or informed: *Have you heard the latest news?* [+*(that)*] *I hear there's going to be an election in March.* | *I've heard it said that she's a tough business-*

*woman.* | *"I passed my driving test."* "Yes, so I've heard." | *We've been hearing quite a lot about that young tennis player recently.* | *Have you heard anything of Bob lately?* (=received any news about him) —see also **HEAR about**, **HEAR of** **3** [T] (esp. of a person in an official position) to listen with attention: *The judge heard the case in court.* | *The priest heard my confession.* **4 Hear! Hear!** (an expression of agreement). This is the usual expression of Members of Parliament when they support what is being said in parliament. **5 hear tell (of)** *infml* to get to know by being told: *I've often heard tell of the wonderful parties she gives, but I've never been invited.* **6 'hear things** *infml* to imagine that one hears something that has not been said: *I must be hearing things* (=I can't believe what I have heard) —*they can't really have given the job to that idiot!* —see also **see things** (**SEE¹**) **7 won't/wouldn't hear of** refuse(s) to allow: *I won't hear of you walking to the station — let me give you a lift!* **8 have you heard the one about...** *infml* (a common beginning for a joke) —*er n*

► **USAGE** Compare **hear** and **listen (to)**. **1** You **hear** something, but you **listen to** something. **2** To **hear** is to take in sound with the ears, whether one wants to or not: *I'm a little bit deaf so I didn't hear him knocking.* To **listen** is to pay attention in order to hear: *We always listen to the six o'clock news on the radio.* | *If you listen hard, you can hear what the neighbours are saying.* ◀

**hear about** sbdy./sthg. *phr v* [T] to get to know: *Did you hear about the party?* — *It was a complete failure.* [+obj+v-ing] *Have you heard about Gatsby jumping into the pool with all his clothes on?*

**hear from** sbdy. *phr v* [T] to receive news from (someone), usu. by letter: *I heard from him last week.* | *I look forward to hearing from you in the near future.* (=written at the end of a letter) —compare **HEAR of**

**hear of** sbdy./sthg. *phr v* [T usu. in questions and negatives] to have knowledge of or receive information about (a fact, the existence of a person or thing, etc.): *Who's he? — I've never heard of him.* [+obj+v-ing] *I've never heard of anyone doing a thing like that.* | *He disappeared in the Amazon region and hasn't been heard of since/and that's the last we heard of him.* —compare **HEAR from**; see also **UNHEARD-OF**

**hear** sbdy./sthg. *out phr v* [T pass. rare] to listen to (a person or their words) until they have finished speaking: *Don't interrupt, just hear me out.*

**hearing** /'hɪərɪŋ/ *n* **1** [U] the sense by which one hears sound: *Her hearing is getting worse.* —see also **HARD OF HEARING** **2** [U] the distance at which one can hear; **EAR-SHOT**: *Don't talk about it in her hearing.* (=so that she can hear) **3** [C] an act or occasion of listening: *At first hearing I didn't like the music.* **4** [C] a chance to be heard explaining one's position: *She felt that her proposal hadn't been given a fair hearing.* **5** [C] a trial of a case before a judge or any official inquiry at which witnesses are heard

**hearing aid** /'hɪərɪŋ aɪd/ also **deaf-aid** *BrE infml* — *n* a small electric machine fitted near the ear, which makes sounds louder for people with weak hearing —compare **LISTENING DEVICE**

**hear-ken, harken** /'hɑːkən/ *v* [I (to)] *lit* to listen

**hear-say** /'hɪəsɪ/ *n* [U] things which are said rather than proved: *I'm told he didn't resign; he was fired — but it's only hearsay.* | *Hearsay evidence is not acceptable to the court.*

**hearse** /hɜːs/ *n* a vehicle which is used to carry a body in its **COFFIN** to the funeral before being put in the grave

**Hearst** /hɜːst/ *n*, **Wil-liam Ran-dolph** /'wɪljəm 'rændɒlf/ (1863–1951) an American businessman who owned many popular newspapers. It is thought that Orson Welles' film *Citizen Kane* was based on Hearst.

**heart** /hɑːt/ *n* **1** [C] the organ inside the chest which controls the flow of blood by pushing it round the body: *a weak heart* | *The patient's heart is beating strongly.* | (fig.) *My heart stood still when I saw her.* (=I was unable to move or think clearly) —see picture at **RESPIRATORY** **2** [C] the heart when thought of as the centre of a person's feelings, esp. of kind or sincere feelings: *Don't let your heart rule your head.* (=Don't let your feelings influence your ideas, decisions, etc.) | *My heart bled* (=I was very sorry) *for the starving children.* | *I felt sick at heart.* (=sad and without hope) | *He has a kind/warm/cold*



**heart.** | *Have a heart!* (=be sympathetic/forgiving) | *You can't expect me to do all that work in one day!* | *She died of a broken heart.* | *I thanked her with all my heart*[from the bottom of my heart. (=very sincerely) | *The nuclear issue is a subject close to her heart.* (=something she is deeply concerned about) | *She originally said she wouldn't help us, but she seems to have had a change of heart.* (=her feelings have changed) | *The political party campaigned to win the hearts and minds of the young people* (=to gain their complete and eager support) **3** [C] something in a shape supposed to be like the shape of a heart. A heart is used to represent the love between a man and a woman. It frequently appears on VALENTINE cards which people, esp. young unmarried people, send to the man or woman they love on VALENTINE'S DAY. **4** [C] **a** a heart-shaped figure printed in red on a playing card **b** a card belonging to the SUIT (=set) of cards that have one or more of these figures printed on them: *the five/queen of hearts* | *I have only two hearts in my hand.* —see CARDS (USAGE) and see picture at CARDS **5** **a** [(the) S (of)] the central or most important part: *in the heart of New York's financial district* | *Let's get to the heart of the matter/the subject.* | *new reforms that strike at the heart of the capitalist system* **b** [C] the firm middle part of some leafy vegetables: *artichoke hearts* **6** [U] determination or strength of purpose: *I did the job for a few weeks but my heart wasn't in it.* | *I used to dig the garden every week, but I lost heart when the rain washed all the plants away.* | *I didn't have the heart to tell her the bad news.* **7** after one's own heart similar to oneself or of the type one likes: *He's a man after my own heart.* **8** at heart: **a** really; in fact: *He seems friendly, but he's just a ruthless businessman at heart.* **b** in one's care or thoughts: *Believe me, I have your best interests at heart.* **9** by heart by memory: *to learn a poem by heart* **10** have one's heart in the right place *infml* to be a kind or generous person, perhaps in spite of one's outward manner **11** heart and soul with all one's attention and strength; completely **12** in one's heart of hearts in one's most secret feelings; in reality: *I told her I loved her, but in my heart of hearts I knew it wasn't true.* **13** my heart sank I suddenly lost hope: *My heart sank when I saw the length of the queue.* **14** my heart was in my mouth *infml* I was full of fear for a short time: *My heart was in my mouth as she made her last jump.* **15** take heart to be encouraged **16** set one's heart on something to want something very much and to expect to have or do it: *The children have set their hearts on going to the zoo, so we can't disappoint them.* **17** take something to heart to feel the effect of something deeply (and take suitable action): *She took your criticisms very much to heart and she's working harder now.* | *Don't take what she says so much to heart.* **18** the way to a man's heart is through his stomach saying the way to make a man love you is to cook good food for him **19** to one's heart's content as much as one wants: *It's the weekend, so you can sleep to your heart's content.* **20** -hearted /hɑ:tɪd||hɑ:r-/ having a heart or character of the stated kind: *kind-hearted* | *cold-hearted* (=without kind feelings) | *stout-hearted* (=full of determination) —see also BROKEN-HEARTED, LONELY HEARTS, PURPLE HEART, eat one's heart out (EAT), lose one's heart to (LOSE), wear one's heart on one's sleeve (WEAR<sup>1</sup>)

**heart-ache** /'hɑ:teɪk||'hɑ:rt-/ *n* [U] *esp. lit* deep feelings of sorrow

**heart at-tack** /'hɑ:ətæk||'hɑ:rt-/ *n* a sudden serious medical condition in which the heart stops working properly, usu. because of a CORONARY<sup>2</sup> —compare HEART DISEASE

**heart-beat** /'hɑ:tbeɪt||'hɑ:rt-/ *n* **1** [U] the action or sound of the heart as it pushes the blood round the body **2** [C] one pushing movement of the heart: *We thought he was dead, but then we detected a heartbeat.*

**heart-break** /'hɑ:tbreɪk||'hɑ:rt-/ *n* [U] 'deep sorrow or terrible disappointment

**heart-break-ing** /'hɑ:tbreɪkɪŋ||'hɑ:rt-/ *adj* causing deep sorrow or terrible disappointment: *a heartbreaking news report about starving children* —~ly *adv*

**heart-brok-en** /'hɑ:tbrəʊkən||'hɑ:rt-/ also **broken-hearted**— *adj* (of a person) deeply hurt in the feelings; full of sorrow: *absolutely heartbroken over the death of her pet cat*

**heart-burn** /'hɑ:tɜ:ɪn||'hɑ:rtɜ:ɪn/ *n* [U] *not tech* a condition in which one feels an unpleasant burning in the chest,

caused by acid acting on food in the stomach; it is a sign of INDIGESTION

**heart dis-ease** /'hɑ:tdɪzɪz||'hɑ:rt-/ *n* [C;U] (an) illness which prevents the heart from working properly. Britain has one of the highest rates of heart disease in the world. —compare HEART ATTACK

**heart-en** /'hɑ:tɪn||'hɑ:rt-/ *v* [T *often pass.*] to cause to feel happier or more hopeful; encourage: *We were heartened by the fall in the unemployment figures.* | *heartening news* —opposite **dishearten** —~ingly *adv*

**heart fail-ure** /'hɑ:tfeɪljə||'hɑ:rt-/ *n* [U] the stopping of the movement of the heart, esp. resulting in death

**heart-felt** /'hɑ:tfeɪlt||'hɑ:rt-/ *adj* deeply felt; sincere: *a heart-felt apology* | *my heartfelt thanks*

**hearth** /hɑ:θ||hɑ:rθ/ *n* **1** the area around the fire in a house, esp. the floor of the fireplace. The hearth is often thought of as the centre of a family's life. —see picture at FIRE-PLACE **2** **hearth and home** home as a centre of family life

**hearth-rug** /'hɑ:θrʌg||'hɑ:rθ-/ *n* a RUG (=type of floor covering) in front of the fireplace

**heart-ily** /'hɑ:tɪli||'hɑ:rt-/ *adv* **1** **a** with strength, force, etc.: *He laughed heartily.* **b** in large amounts: *They ate heartily.* **2** thoroughly: *I'm heartily sick of your constant complaining.*

**heart-land** /'hɑ:tlænd||'hɑ:rt-/ *n* the central or most important part of a country or area: *the Russian heartland*

**heart-less** /'hɑ:tləs||'hɑ:rt-/ *adj* cruel; unkind; pitiless: *a heartless refusal/attitude* | *How can you be so heartless?* —~ly *adv* —~ness *n* [U]

**heart-lung ma-chine** /'hɑ:tlʌŋmɑ:ʃɪn||'hɑ:rt-/ *n* a machine which can do the work of a person's heart while a doctor is operating on the heart

**Heart of En-gland** /'hɑ:təvən||'hɑ:rt-/ [the] the central area of England. This expression is used esp. to tourists to make the area sound attractive.

**Heart of Mid-lo-thi-an** /'hɑ:təvən||'hɑ:rt-/ also **Hearts** *infml* a football team based in Edinburgh, Scotland (from the name of an old Edinburgh prison)

**heart-rend-ing** /'hɑ:trendɪŋ||'hɑ:rt-/ *adj* causing deep sorrow or pity; PITIFUL: *the heartrending cries of the starving children* —~ly *adv*

**heart-search-ing** /'hɑ:tseərɪŋ||'hɑ:rt-/ *n* [U] painful thinking about one's attitude or behaviour in a difficult situation: *After much heart-searching, they decided to have the baby adopted.*

**heart-sick** /'hɑ:t,sɪk||'hɑ:rt-/ *adj* *esp. lit* feeling very unhappy or disappointed

**Hearts of Oak** /'hɑ:təvən||'hɑ:rt-/ an 18th-century British song and march which celebrate Britain's skill in naval matters

**heart-strings** /'hɑ:tstrɪŋz||'hɑ:rt-/ *n* [P] someone's deep feelings of love and sympathy: *The sight of the little boy crying tugged at my heartstrings.*

**heart-throb** /'hɑ:tθrɒb||'hɑ:rtθrɒb/ *n* *sl* a man who is very attractive and with whom girls fall in love

**heart-to-heart** /'hɑ:təvən||'hɑ:rt-/ *n, adj* [A] (a talk) that is open and sincere, esp. between two people, mentioning personal details, without hiding anything: *It's time we had a heart-to-heart (chat) about your work.*

**heart-warm-ing** /'hɑ:t,wɔ:ɪnɪŋ||'hɑ:rt,wɔ:ɪr-/ *adj* giving a feeling of pleasure, esp. when someone has been very kind: *a heartwarming response to our appeal for help* —~ly *adv*

**heart-wood** /'hɑ:twʊd||'hɑ:rt-/ *n* [U] the older harder wood at the centre of a tree —compare SAPWOOD

**heart-y** /'hɑ:ti||'hɑ:rti/ *adj* **1** friendly and sincere; WARM-HEARTED: *a hearty welcome* **2** (of a person) strong and healthy; full of VIGOUR: *He's very hale and hearty for a man of 75.* **3** (of meals) large; SUBSTANTIAL **4** *infml, esp. BrE* (too) cheerful, esp. when noisy and trying to appear friendly **5** **my hearties** *old use* (a friendly form of address used by and to men, esp. sailors): *Pull away, my hearties!* —see also HEARTILY —~iness *n* [U]

**heat**<sup>1</sup> /hi:t/ *v* [I;T (UP)] to make or become warm or hot: *We'll heat (up) some milk for the coffee.* | *a pan of water heating on the stove* | *a heated swimming pool*

**heat**<sup>2</sup> *n* **1** [U] the degree of hotness; temperature: *Use the circular switch to adjust the heat of the oven.* **2** [U] a condition of being hot; high temperature: *The heat from*



the fire dried their clothes. | a chemical reaction that produces tremendous heat | The spacecraft is made of heat-resistant metal. **b** hot weather: I can't walk about in this heat. | We liked living in a tropical country but we couldn't stand the heat. **3** [U] a state or time of great excitement or activity, or strong feeling: In the heat of the moment/argument I lost my self-control. | The heat is on. (=activity, excitement, and pressure have started) | take the heat off (=reduce the pressure) | He tried to take the heat out of the debate. (=tried to calm the feelings of those taking part) —see also HEATED **4** [U] a state of sexual excitement happening regularly to certain female animals, such as female dogs (esp. in the phrases **on heat** (BrE)/**in heat** (AmE)) **5** [C] a part of a race or competition whose winners then compete against other winners to decide the end result: She was knocked out in the qualifying heats. **6** [U] *tech* the force produced by the movement of groups of atoms —see also DEAD HEAT, PRICKLY HEAT, WHITE HEAT **7** the heat is on someone is under a lot of pressure, usu. to work harder: The heat is on for him now — he either improves his work or he loses his job. **8** If you can't stand the heat, get out of the kitchen saying if you cannot accept the problems and pressure that come with a job or situation, you should leave the situation

**heat-ed** /'hi:tɪd/ *adj* with strong, excited, and often angry feelings; IMPASSIONED: a heated debate | She got very heated about it. —compare HOT<sup>1</sup> (3) —~ly *adv*

**heat-er** /'hi:tə/ *n* a machine for heating air or water: Did you remember to turn the heater off? | a fan heater —compare STOVE<sup>1</sup>, and see picture at CAR

**heat ex-chang-er** /'hi:ʃeɪŋgə/ *n* a piece of equipment in a car heater or POWER STATION (=place where electricity is produced) which makes heat go from one liquid or gas to another

**heat ex-haust-ion** /'hi:ʃeɪstɪən/ *n* [U] weakness and sickness caused by doing too much when it is very hot: Many of the refugees are suffering from heat exhaustion.

**heath** /hi:θ/ *n* **1** [C] an open piece of wild unfarmed land where grass and other plants grow; MOOR<sup>1</sup> or COMMON<sup>2</sup> **2** [U] a kind of bush with small flowers; HEATHER OR LING

**Heath, Sir Edward (Ted)** /ted/ (1916– ) a British Conservative politician who was PRIME MINISTER from 1970 to 1974 and led Britain into the European Community

**Heath-cliff** /'hi:θklɪf/ the central character in the book *Wuthering Heights* by Emily Brontë. Attractive to Catherine Earnshaw (Cathy) because of his wildness, he is prevented from marrying her and later punishes those who have ruined his life.

**hea-then**<sup>1</sup> /'hi:ðən/ *n* old-fash **1** [the +P] people, esp. in a distant or wild place, who are not Christians. This word was used esp. in the 19th century when Britain was building its EMPIRE (=possession of other countries by force). As companies went to these countries to get cheap goods, missionaries (MISSIONARY) went to teach Christianity to the heathen, people they thought of as either wicked or not knowing about the right ways to behave: They went out to Africa to convert the heathen. —compare PAGAN **2** a person, esp. in a distant or wild place, who does not belong to one of the large established religions **3** *infml*, often derog a person who is regarded as wild and uncivilized: He's nothing but a heathen.

**heathen**<sup>2</sup> *adj* not Christian and usu. living in a distant or wild place

**heath-er** /'heðə/ *n* [U] a small bush which grows on open windy land and has small purple, pink or white flowers. People connect heather with Scotland where the mountainsides are purple with heather in the autumn. White heather is said to be lucky and gypsies (GYPSY) sometimes try to sell it.

**Heath Rob-in-son** /,hi:θrəʊ'sən/ *adj* BrE, usu. humor (of a machine or system) very clever and COMPLICATED, but in an impractical and amusing way (after W Heath

Robinson (1872–1944), an English artist who drew complicated imaginary machines to do simple jobs): He had rigged up an extraordinary Heath Robinson contraption for watering the plants in his sitting room.

**Heath-row Air-port** /,hi:θrəʊ 'eəpɔ:t/ also **Heathrow** /,hi:θ'rəʊ-, 'hi:θrəʊ/ an important international airport to the W of London, the largest airport in Britain

**heat-ing** /'hi:tɪŋ/ || also **heat** AmE— *n* [U] a system for keeping rooms and buildings warm: Turn the heating down. | a big heating bill —see also CENTRAL HEATING

**heat light-ning** /'hi:tlɪŋ/ *n* [U] esp. AmE LIGHTNING without thunder or rain, and which is a flash of light over a large area, seen esp. in warm countries —compare SHEET LIGHTNING

**heat-proof** /'hi:tpru:f/ *adj* not damaged by heat: a heatproof work surface

**heat pump** /'hi:t pʌmp/ *n* an apparatus which collects heat from one place and moves it to another, usu. into a building, by means of warm air or water, usu. sent through pipes

**heat rash** /'hi:t ræʃ/ also **prickly heat**— *n* [C;U] painful red spots close together on the skin caused by heat and SWEAT (=liquid which comes out of the body through the skin)

**heat-re-sis-tant** /'hi:t rɪzɪstənt/ *adj* (of dishes, surfaces, etc.) not easily damaged by heat: a tray with a heat-resistant surface

**heat-seek-ing** /'hi:t si:kɪŋ/ *adj* having a guiding apparatus that looks for and then tries to get to a hot place, esp. the hot gases coming from an aircraft, ROCKET, etc.: heat-seeking missiles

**heat shield** /'hi:t ʃi:ld/ *n* the part of a spacecraft which prevents the front from getting too hot as it comes back to the Earth

**heat-stroke** /'hi:tstreɪk/ *n* [U] a sometimes severe condition of fever and weakness caused by too much heat —compare SUNSTROKE

**heat wave** /'hi:t veɪv/ *n* a period of unusually hot weather

**heave**<sup>1</sup> /hi:v/ *v* **1** [I;T+obj+adv/prep] to lift and pull or push with great effort: We heaved him to his feet. | We heaved the piano up the steps. | They heaved away at the heavy crate, but it didn't move an inch. **2** [T+obj+adv/prep] *infml* to throw (esp. something heavy): The children have just heaved a brick through my window. **3** [I] to rise and fall regularly: Her chest heaved as she breathed deeply after the race. **4** [T] (of a person) to give out (a sound, esp. a sad sound): We all heaved a sigh of relief. | to heave a groan **5** [I] to try to bring up food from the stomach, esp. because of illness; RETCH **6** BrE **be heaving** *infml* be extremely busy: "How was the supermarket?" "Oh, it was absolutely heaving. I'd forgotten there was a holiday tomorrow." **7** [I+adv/prep] (past tense usu. hove) *tech* (of a ship) to move in the stated direction or manner: As we came into harbour another ship hove alongside. | (fig., humor) We were just about to go when my old friend Pete hove into view.

**heave to** *phr v* hove /həʊv/ [I] *tech* (of a ship) to stop moving; come to rest: When the ship received the signal, she hove to.

**heave**<sup>2</sup> *n* **1** [C] an act of heaving something: One more heave, boys, and the stone will be in place. **2** [U (of)] a regular rising and falling movement: the heave of the sea

**heave-ho** /,hi:v ho/ *n* sl give (someone) the (old) heave-ho to dismiss (someone) from a job

**heav-en** /'hevən/ also **heavens** *pl.*— *n* esp. lit the sky: a grey heaven | Suddenly, the heavens opened. (=it began to rain very hard)

**Heaven, heaven** *n* **1** the place where God or the gods are supposed to live; a place of complete happiness where the souls of good people go after death

► **CULTURAL NOTE** In the Christian religion, Heaven is thought of as a place full of light and the home of ANGELS, servants of God with wings, who play musical instruments (HARPS). People are said to go up to Heaven and down to Hell, and Heaven is often thought of as high in the sky. The gates of Heaven are guarded by Saint Peter, who holds the keys to Heaven. When people arrive at the gates of Heaven, Saint Peter asks them questions to find out whether they have been good enough to be let in. —compare HELL ◀

**2** [U] *infml* a state of great happiness: I was in heaven

Pit Head by  
Heath Robinson





## Heaven



when I heard the good news. The beach was heaven. | It was sheer heaven being able to stay in bed all day. —see also SEVENTH HEAVEN, move heaven and earth (MOVE<sup>1</sup>) 3 (often in expressions of surprise or annoyance) God: Heaven help us if the newspapers ever find out about this. | Heaven knows (=I can't imagine) what would have happened if the police hadn't arrived. | For Heaven's sake shut up! 4 Heavens! Good Heavens! Heavens alive! (expressions of surprise or annoyance)

**heav-en-ly** /'hevənli/ *adj* 1 *infml* wonderful; giving great pleasure: *What heavenly weather!* 2 [A] existing or belonging to heaven, the sky, or space: *The sun, moon, and stars are heavenly bodies.* | *a heavenly choir of angels*

**Heavenly Twins** /i... 'l-/ [*the*+P] see CASTOR AND POLLUX

**heaven-sent** /i... 'l...-/ *adj* happening at just the right moment: *a heaven-sent opportunity*

**heav-en-wards** /'hevənwədz/ ||-wədz/ also **heav-en-ward** /-wəd/ ||-wərd/ *AmE—adv* towards Heaven or the sky

**heav-ies** /'heviz/ [*the*+P] *BrE, infml* serious newspapers; QUALITY PAPERS —compare TABLOID

**heavy<sup>1</sup>** /'hevi/ *adj* 1 of a relatively great weight, esp. of a weight that makes lifting or moving difficult: *a heavy rock* | *This bag is too heavy for me to lift.* | *a heavy winter coat* 2 of unusually great force, amount, or degree: *heavy rain* | *Reports are coming in of heavy fighting in Beirut.* | *The judge imposed a heavy fine.* | *heavy traffic* | *The army suffered heavy casualties/a heavy defeat.* | *She's a heavy smoker/drinker.* (=she smokes/drinks a lot) | *She's a heavy sleeper.* (=she sleeps deeply) 3 a demanding great effort of the mind or great physical effort: *The report makes pretty heavy reading.* | *Moving that piano was heavy work.* **b** (esp. of periods of time) full of hard work: *I've had a heavy day.* 4 feeling or causing sadness or disappointment: *a heavy heart* | *heavy news* 5 a feeling or showing difficulty or slowness in moving: *My head is heavy.* | *heavy movements* | *heavy breathing* **b** difficult to dig or move in: *heavy soil* 6 (of food) rather solid and difficult for the stomach to DIGEST: *a heavy fruitcake* 7 **a** (of the sky) full of dark clouds; OVERCAST **b** (of the sea) rough and stormy, with big waves 8 [F+on] *infml* a severe or unsympathetic (in dealing with): *Don't be too heavy on her.* **b** using in large quantities: *This car is heavy on oil.* 9 *old-fash sl* troublesome or threatening. When people hear this word they often think of HIPPIES and the popular way of life of the 1960s: *It's too heavy here, man. We'd better leave.* 10 **find something heavy going** to find that something is very difficult, esp. something that needs great effort of the mind: *I tried to read the report but I found it heavy going.* 11 **make heavy weather of something** to make a job or problem seem more difficult than it really is —opposite *light* (esp. for 1,2,3,4) —*ily adv*: *moving/breathing/drinking heavily* | *They are heavily dependent on imported oil.* | *heavily-armed guards* —*iness n* [U]

**heavy<sup>2</sup>** *adv* in a dull unsatisfying way (in the phrases *lie heavy on/hang heavy on*): *Time hung heavy on his hands.* (=seemed to pass slowly)

**heavy<sup>3</sup>** *n* 1 *infml* a rough and violent person; THUG: *a gang of heavies* 2 a serious usu. male part in a play, esp. a bad character

**heavy breath-er** /i... 'l.../ *n* 1 a person who breathes loudly when asleep 2 a man who telephones a woman, usu. a woman he does not know, and breathes noisily to frighten her or to suggest sexual pleasure **heavy breathing** *n* [U]

**heavy cream** /i... 'l-/ *n* [U] *AmE* thick cream

**heavy-du-ty** /i... 'l...-/ *adj* 1 (of clothes, TYRES, machines, etc.) made to be used a lot, or strong enough for rough treatment 2 *infml* (of people and social occasions) causing worry, pressure, STRAIN<sup>2</sup> (2), etc.

**heavy goods ve-hi-cle** /i... 'l...-/ also **HGV** *n BrE* a large vehicle used for carrying goods from one place to another, for example from the WAREHOUSE to the SUPERMARKET

**heavy-hand-ed** /i... 'l...-/ *adj* 1 unkind, unfair, or severe in the way one treats other people: *a heavy-handed style of management* 2 not careful in speech and action; TACTLESS: *a heavy-handed compliment* 3 awkward in movements of the hands; CLUMSY —*ly* —*ness n* [U]

**heavy-heart-ed** /,hevi'hɑ:tɪd/ ||-'hɑ:r-/ *adj esp. lit* sad; DEPRESSED

**heavy hit-ter** /i... 'l.../ *n AmE* 1 a BASEBALL player who hits the ball hard and often gains points for his/her team 2 a person who has a lot of power, esp. in business or politics, and so can get things done to his/her advantage: *The Russians are bringing on their heavy hitters in this latest round of arms talks.*

**heavy hy-dro-gen** /i... 'l.../ *n* [U] *tech* a type of HYDROGEN heavier than the more common ISOTOPE

**heavy in-dus-try** /i... 'l.../ *n* [U] the branch of industry that produces large goods, such as cars or aircraft, or materials (such as coal, steel, or chemicals) which are used in the production of other goods —compare LIGHT INDUSTRY

**heavy-lad-en** /i... 'l...-/ *adj* 1 carrying a heavy load 2 *lit* having too many worries and troubles

**heavy met-al** /i... 'l...-/ *n* [U] loud ROCK MUSIC with a strong beat and with the GUITAR sound increased by electric instruments.

► **CULTURAL NOTE** Heavy metal attracts men more than women. Some people who are keen on heavy metal HEADBANG, that is, they shake their heads violently in time with the beat. They often have long hair and wear black clothes, esp. black leather JACKETS, and clothes with chains on them. Some are interested in the association of heavy metal with evil. —compare HARD ROCK, CLASSIC ROCK ◀

**heavy pet-ting** /i... 'l.../ *n* [U] sexual activity up to but not including SEXUAL INTERCOURSE

**heavy-set** /i... 'l...-/ *adj* (of people) rather broad and strong-looking, sometimes rather fat

**heavy wa-ter** /i... 'l.../ *n* [U] *tech* water containing HEAVY HYDROGEN

**heavy-weight** /'heviweɪt/ *n* 1 a person or thing that is a of more than average weight **b** of great importance or influence: *one of the heavyweights of the film industry* 2 a BOXER of the heaviest class, weighing 175 pounds (79 kilos) or more —see also LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHT

**heb-dom-a-dal** /heb'dɒmədəl/ ||-'dɑ:z-/ *adj fml* rare weekly —*ly adv*

**He-bra-ic** /hɪ'breɪɪk/ *adj* of or concerning the Hebrew people, language, or civilization

**He-brew** /'hi:brʊz/ *n* 1 [C] a member of the Jewish people, esp. in ancient times 2 [U] the language used by the Jews, in ancient times and at present —**Hebrew** *adj*

**Heb-ri-des** /'hebrɪdɪz/ [*the* + P] a group of islands W of the Scottish mainland, made up of the Inner Hebrides (the largest islands of which are Skye, Raasay, Rhum, Eigg, Coll, Tiree, Mull, Jura, Colonsay, and Islay), and the Outer Hebrides (Lewis and Harris, North Uist, Benbecula, South Uist, and Barra) —see colour map on page 818 —**bridean** /,hebrɪ'di:ən/ *n, adj*

**heck** /hek/ *interj, n sl* (used to show annoyance, give force to an expression, etc.): *Oh heck! I've lost my keys again!* | *a heck of a lot of money* | *It's rather expensive, but what the heck!* (=it doesn't matter)

**heck-le** /'hekəl/ *v* [I;T] to interrupt (a speaker or speech) with disapproving or unfriendly remarks, esp. at a political meeting —**ler** *n*

**heck-u-va** /'hekəvə/ also **helluva** —*adj AmE infml* heck of a; very good, ADMIRABLE: *I think I'd make a heckuva farm wife.*

**hec-tare** /'hektaɪ, -teɪ/ ||-teər/ *n* a unit for measuring area —see TABLE 2

**hec-tic** /'hekɪk/ *adj* full of excitement or hurried activity: *a hectic day at the office* —*ally* /kli/ *adv*



**hec·tor** /'hektə/ *v* [I;T] to behave in a noisy threatening way towards (someone), esp. in order to get them to do what one wants

**Hector** the leader of the Trojans in the Trojan War, whose body was dragged around the walls of Troy by Achilles, who killed him

**he'd** /ɪd, hɪd; *strong* hɪd/ *short for*: **1** he would: *He'd go if he could.* **2** he had: *By the time I got there, he'd gone.*

**hedge**<sup>1</sup> /hedʒ/ *n* **1** a row of bushes or small trees planted close together, usu. cut level at the top, which divides one garden or field from another —see picture at **HOUSE** **2** [(against)] something that gives protection, esp. against possible loss: *Buying a house will be a hedge against inflation.*

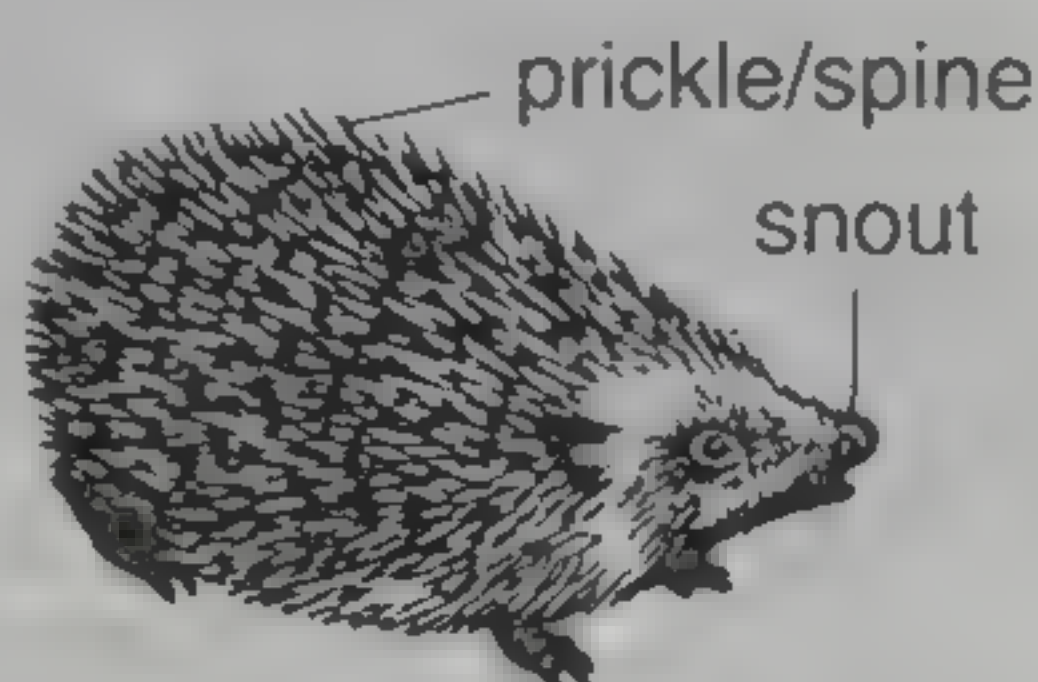
**hedge**<sup>2</sup> *v* **1** [T] to make a hedge round (a field) **2** [I] to refuse to answer directly: *You're hedging again — have you got the money or haven't you?* **3** [I] *tech* (of the STOCK MARKET) to buy or sell a COMMODITY (1) to establish a definite price for future use **4** *be hedged about with/around with fml* to be full of or surrounded by, esp. in a way that causes difficulty or limits one's actions: *We're trying to build an extension to the house, but the whole procedure seems to be hedged about with problems.* **5** *hedge one's bets* to protect oneself against possible loss, e.g. by supporting more than one side in a competition or argument

*hedge* sbdy./sthg. ↔ *in phr v* [T] to surround or enclose, esp. so that escape is impossible

**hedge-hog** /'hedʒhɒg/ -hɒg/ *n*

a type of small insect-eating animal which is active at night. It has SPINES (=stiff, sharp-pointed parts) which stand out from its back to protect it when it rolls itself into a ball after being attacked. People have a friendly attitude to hedge-hogs, and some people leave bread and milk for them in their gardens at night. —compare PORCUPINE

**hedgehog**



prickle/spine  
snout

**hedge-row** /'hedʒrəʊ/ *n* a row of bushes or low trees growing on a bank of earth, esp. along a country road or separating fields

**hedge spar-row** /'hɛdʒsɜːrəʊ/ *n* a common small bird of Europe and America

**he·don·is·m** /'hɪdən·ɪzəm/ *n* [U] the practice of living one's life purely for pleasure, esp. physical pleasure —compare EPICUREAN —*ist n* —*istic* /'hɪdən·ɪstɪk/ *adj*

**hee·bie-jee·bies** /'hiːbi 'dʒiːbiːz/ *n* [(the+P)] *infml* nervous anxiety caused by fear

**heed**<sup>1</sup> /hiːd/ *v* [T] *fml* to give attention to; consider seriously: *She didn't heed my warning/advice.*

**heed**<sup>2</sup> *n* [U] *fml* careful attention, esp. to advice or requests; notice (esp. in the phrases **pay heed to**, **take heed of**): *Pay heed to/Take heed of her advice.* — *~ful adj* — *~less adj*: *Heedless of our advice, he went for a swim and was attacked by a shark.*

**Hee Haw** /'hiː hɔː/ an American television programme which featured simple humour about country people and country music

**hee-haw** *n* [S] the sound made by a DONKEY

**heel**<sup>1</sup> /hiːl/ *n* **1** the rounded back part of the foot —see picture at **FOOT** **2** a the part of a shoe, sock, etc., which covers the heel **b** the raised part of a shoe underneath the back of the foot —see also **HEELS**, and see picture at **SHOE** **3** *old-fash sl* a man with no sense of honour; **CAD** **4** **bring to heel** to bring under control; force to obey **5** **come to heel**: **a** (of a dog) to follow close to its master **b** (of a person) to begin to obey or stop disobeying **6** **kick one's heels** not to have anything particular to do: *I'm just kicking my heels until the beginning of term.* **7** **lay someone by the heels** *BrE* old use to catch someone and put them in prison **8** **on/at one's heels** (following) very closely behind: *The police were (hot) on our heels.* | *Heavy rain followed (hard) on the heels of the thunder.* **9** **take to one's heels** to run away at once **10** **turn on one's heel** to turn away suddenly, esp. angrily or rudely **11** **under the heel of** completely in the power of: *The whole country was under the heel of a foreign army.* —see also **ACHILLES' HEEL**, **DOWN-AT-HEEL**, **WELL-HEEL**, **cool one's**

**heels** (COOL<sup>2</sup>), **dig one's heels in** (DIG<sup>1</sup>), **show a clean pair of heels** (SHOW<sup>1</sup>)

**heel**<sup>2</sup> *v* **1** [T] to put a heel on (a shoe) **2** [I *usu. imperative*] (of a dog) to move along at the heels of someone **3** [T] (in RUGBY) to send (the ball) backwards with the heel

**heel over** *phr v* [I] to lean over at an angle, ready to fall: *The ship heeled over in the storm.*

**heels** /hiːlz/ *n* [P] HIGH HEELS —compare **FLATS**

**Heep** /hiːp/, **U·ri·ah** /juːˈraɪə/ a wicked character in Dickens's story *David Copperfield* who pretends to be very willing to do everything his master wishes, but in reality controls him and cheats him. He is known esp. for saying repeatedly that he is **so very 'umble** (=HUMBLE).

**Hef·ner** /'hefnər/, **Hugh** /hjuː/ (1926– ) an American who started Playboy magazine and is connected with Playboy Clubs

**hef·ty** /'hefti/ *adj* **1** big and powerful: *a hefty man* | *a hefty punch on the jaw* **2** large in amount: *The judge imposed a hefty fine.* **3** (of objects) big and difficult to move; **BULKY** —*~tily adv*

**He·gel** /'heɪɡəl/, **Ge·org Wil·helm Fried·rich** /'geɪɔːg 'vɪlhɛlm 'friːdrɪk, -ɪx/ -ɔːrg-/ (1770–1831) a German thinker (**PHILOSOPHER**)

**he·gem·o·ny** /hɪ'geməni, 'hedʒməni/ hɪ'dʒeməni, 'hedʒməni/ *n* [U] *fml* leadership and control of one state over other states; **DOMINANCE**

**He·gi·ra, Hejira** /'hedʒɪrə, hɪ'dʒaɪərə/ [the] the escape of Muhammad from Mecca to Medina in the year AD 622

**Hegira cal·en·dar** /'hɛdʒɪrə 'kæl·ən·dər/ [the] the Muslim system of dividing a year of 354 days into 12 months and numbering the years from the Hegira —compare **GREGORIAN CALENDAR**

**Hei·del·berg** /'heɪdəlbɜːg/ -bɜːrg/ a university town in SW Germany

**Hei·di** /'haɪdi/ a little girl who is the chief character in the children's book *Heidi* by Johanna Spyri (1827–1901)

**heif·er** /'heɪfər/ *n* a young cow which has not yet given birth to a CALF —compare **BULLOCK**, **OX**, **STEER**

**heigh·ho** /'heɪ 'həʊ/ *interj* (used humorously to express tired acceptance of something unpleasant, e.g. that it is time to start work again): *Heigh-ho. I suppose we'd better get back to work.*

**height** /haɪt/ *n* **1** [C;U] the quality or degree of being tall or high: *His height makes him easy to see in the crowd.* | *What's the height of the Empire State Building?* (=How high is it?) **2** [C] (a point at) a fixed or measured distance above another given point: *a window at a height of 5 metres above the ground* | *During the floods the river rose to the height of the main road beside it.* **3** [C] also **heights pl.** — a high position or place: *We looked down from a great height to see the whole town below us.* | *the Golan Heights* | *I'm afraid of heights.* **4** [(the) S (of)] a the highest degree: *It's the height of stupidity to go sailing when you can't swim.* | *She always dresses in the height of fashion.* **b** the main or most active point: *at the height of the storm/the tourist season* | *when the crisis/the famine was at its height*

**height·en** /'haɪtn/ *v* [I;T] to make or become higher or greater: *to heighten a wall* | *As she waited, her excitement heightened.* | *The dramatic lighting heightened the effect of the exhibition.* | *a heightened awareness of the problem*

**Heim·lich ma·noeu·vre** /'haɪmlɪk məˌnuːvər, -lɪx-/ also **ab·dominal thrust** esp. *BrE* — *n* a method of saving someone who is **CHOKING** (=dying because something stuck in the throat prevents breathing). A person standing behind the person in trouble puts his/her arms around the person and pushes into the person's chest quickly and suddenly to force the object out of the person's throat. The Heimlich manoeuvre can be learned in a **FIRST AID** course —see also **FIRST AID**

**Hei·ne** /'heɪnə/, **Hein·rich** /'haɪnrɪk, -ɪx/ (1797–1856) a German poet noted for his political **SATIRE**

**Hei·ne·ken** /'heɪnɪkən/ *n* [U] *tdmk* beer made by the Dutch company Heineken. Many people remember their advertisements, which had amusing pictures and the words "Heineken. Refreshes the parts other beers cannot reach." People sometimes use these words humorously when they are talking about other subjects.

**hei·nous** /'heɪnəs/ *adj* *lit or fml* (of morally bad people or



acts) extremely wicked or shameful: *a heinous crime* — ~ly *adj* — ~ness *n* [U]

**Heinz** /haɪnz/ *tdmk* a well-known company that makes tinned food, esp. BAKED BEANS. On their tins it says "Heinz 57 varieties", and people sometimes mention this when they want to say that there are many different kinds of something: *Heinz baby food* | (fig., humor) *Our dog's a bit of a Heinz.* (i.e. it is a MONGREL, with many different varieties of dog in its family)

**heir** /eə/ *n* [(to)] the person who has the legal right to receive the property or title of another person, usu. an older member of the same family, when that person dies: *The king's eldest son is the heir to the throne* | *the birth of a son and heir* (=first son)

**heir ap-par-ent** /, · -'·- / *n* heirs apparent [(to)] the heir whose right to receive the family property or title cannot be taken away until he dies: *the heir apparent to the throne* | (fig.) *the heir apparent to the party leadership* — compare HEIR PRESUMPTIVE

**heir-ess** /'eərɪs, 'eəres/ *n* a female heir, esp. to great wealth. People sometimes make jokes about men dreaming of marrying wealthy heiresses, and popular newspapers often have stories about unmarried wealthy heiresses and the men they are seen with: *He hopes to marry a rich heiress and stop working.*

**heir-loom** /'eəlu:m||'eər-/ *n* a valuable object that has been passed on by older members of a family to younger ones over many years or even several centuries: *I wouldn't sell that vase. It's an heirloom.*

**heir pre-sump-tive** /, · -'·- / *n* heirs presumptive [(to)] an heir whose right to a title or property can be taken away if someone else with a stronger right is born — compare HEIR APPARENT

**Hei-sen-berg** /'heɪzənbɜ:ɡ||-bɜ:rg/, Wer-ner Karl /'veənə kɑ:l||'veərnər kɑ:rl/ (1901–76) a German PHYSICIST noted for his work on the behaviour of atoms, who won the 1932 Nobel Prize for PHYSICS

**Heis-man Tro-phy** /'haɪsmən ,trəʊfi/ also **Heisman Me-mo-ri-al Tro-phy** /, · -'·- / *fml* — *n* a prize given each year to the best college FOOTBALL (2) player in the US

**heist** /haɪst/ *n* *AmE infml* an act of stealing something, usu. of great value; a ROBBERY or BURGLARY **heist** *v* [T]: *Somebody heisted \$50,000 from the safe over the weekend.*

**He-ji-ra** /'hedʒɪrə, hɪ'dʒaɪərə/ [*the*] the HEGIRA

**held** /held/ *past tense & participle* of HOLD

**Hel-en of Troy** /, helɪn əv 'trɔɪ/ also **Helen** — in CLASSICAL MYTHOLOGY, the wife of Menelaus and the most beautiful of women

► **CULTURAL NOTE** In the West, Helen of Troy is still one of the most famous beautiful women. She was the wife of a Greek, Menelaus, but followed her lover Paris to Troy. The Greeks went to war against Troy (the TROJAN WAR) and, by hiding their men inside a wooden horse (the TROJAN HORSE) which they gave as a gift to the men of Troy, succeeded in getting her back. Troy was destroyed. This story was told by Homer in the *Iliad*, and has been retold many times in European literature. In the later story of Faust, in which a man sells his soul to the Devil for the pleasures of this world, Faust chooses Helen. The phrase "Is this the face that launched a thousand ships?", speaking of the beauty of Helen, comes from Christopher Marlowe's play about Faust (1588). ◀

**hel-i-cop-ter** /'helɪkɒptə<sup>r</sup>||-kɑ:p-/ also **whirlybird** *AmE infml* — *n* a type of aircraft which is made to fly by a set of large fast-turning metal blades fixed on its top, and which can land in a small space and take off without running over the ground

**he-li-o-graph** /'hɪliəgrɑ:f||-græf/ *n* an instrument which sends messages by directing flashes of sunlight with a mirror

**he-li-o-trope** /'hɪliətrəʊp, 'he-||'hɪz-/ *n* 1 [C] a type of garden plant with purplish flowers which turn towards the sun 2 [U] the colour of this flower

**hel-i-port** /'helɪpɔ:t||-pɔ:rt/ *n* a usu. small airport for helicopters

**he-li-um** /'hɪliəm/ *n* [U] a gas that is a simple substance (ELEMENT) that is lighter than air, will not burn, and is used in AIRSHIPS and some kinds of lights

**he-lix** /'hɪzɪks/ *n* *tech* something with the form of a SPIRAL<sup>1</sup> (2)

hell



**hell** /hel/ *n* 1 [U] (*often cap.*) (esp. in the Christian and Muslim religions) a place where the souls of the DAMNED (bad people) are said to be punished after death.

► **CULTURAL NOTE** In the Christian religion, Hell is thought of as a place full of darkness and fire, where people burn for ever. People are said to go up to heaven and down to Hell, and Hell is often thought of as deep below the ground. Satan, the devil, has control of the people in Hell. — compare HEAVEN ◀

2 [S;U] a state or experience of great suffering: *The troops at the front went through hell.* | *The new airport has made our lives hell because of the continual noise.* | *Central London was sheer hell on the Saturday before Christmas.* 3 [(the)S;U] *sl* (a swear word, used in anger or to give force to an expression) — see also HELLUVA: *What the hell's that thing on your head?* | *That's a hell of a price to pay for a shirt.* | *a hell of a lot of money* | *He's got a hell of a cheek coming in here and expecting us to do his work.* | "Are you going to do his work?" "The hell I am!" (=No, certainly not.) | *If you don't like it, you can go to hell!* | *Oh hell — I've missed the last train!* 4 All 'hell broke loose a sudden noisy disorder broke out 5 come hell or high water in spite of whatever difficulties may happen: *They were determined to finish the job, come hell or high water.* 6 for the hell of it *infml* just for fun and for no other reason: *We decided to go swimming at midnight just for the hell of it.* 7 give someone hell *infml* to treat or speak to someone very angrily or severely: *My father was in bed when I came in late, but he gave me hell next morning.* 8 hell for leather *infml*, esp. *BrE* very fast; used of movement by people: *I was half an hour late for work, and I cycled hell for leather down the hill.* 9 Hell hath no fury like a woman scorned *quote* a slightly changed phrase from a poem by William Congreve, used when saying how cruel women can be when they have been hurt or upset by a man 10 hell's bells *infml* (an expression of surprise) 11 Hell on earth a very unpleasant situation or way of life 12 hell to pay *sl* serious trouble or punishment: *There'll be hell to pay if the boss finds out about this.* 13 like a bat out of hell *infml* extremely quickly: *I ran out of there like a bat out of hell!* 14 like hell *infml* a (used after the phrase) very much: *We worked like hell to finish the job.* b (used before the phrase) not at all so: "Did he pay for the meal?" "Like hell he did! I had to pay for it myself!" 15 play hell with *infml* to cause disorder or confusion to: *The sudden cold weather played hell with the weekend sports programme.* 16 when hell freezes over *infml* never (because hell is believed to be hot with fire, and will never freeze)

**he'll** /ɪl, hɪl; strong hɪz/ *short for*: 1 he will 2 he shall

**hell-bent** /, · -'·- / *adj* [F+on] *infml* completely determined to do something, without considering possible dangers: *She's hell-bent on climbing that mountain.*

**hell-cat** /'helkæt/ *n* a fierce hot-tempered woman

**Hel-lene** /'helɪn/ *n* *fml* a Greek, esp. an ancient Greek

**Hel-len-ic** /he'lenɪk/ *adj* of or concerning the history, civilization, or art of the Greeks, esp. during the ancient period before the death of Alexander the Great (323 BC)

**Hel-le-nis-tic** /, helɪ'nɪstɪk- / *adj* of or concerning the history, civilization, or art of ancient Greece and other countries of the Eastern Mediterranean during the period after the death of Alexander the Great (323 BC)

**Hel-les-pont** /'helɪspɒnt||-pɑ:nt/ [*the*] a former name for the Dardanelles



**hell-hole** /'helhəʊl/ *n* a place in which conditions for a human are extremely bad

**hell-ish** /'helɪʃ/ *adj* 1 *infml* very bad or unpleasant; *hellish weather* | *I've had a hellish day at work.* 2 of or like HELL (1) — *~ly adv*: a *hellishly* difficult exam

**Hell-man** /'helmən/, **Lil-li-an** /'lɪliən/ (1905–84) an American writer of plays known especially for *The Children's Hour* and *The Little Foxes*. She is also remembered for refusing to name anyone as a Communist in front of HUAC.

**hel-lo** /hə'ləʊ, he-/ also **hallo**, **hullo** *BrE— interj, n-los* 1 a (the usual word used when greeting someone): *Hello, John! How are you?* | *I don't know her name but she always says hello to me in the street.* **b** (the word used for starting a telephone conversation): *Hello, is Mrs Brown there?* | *Hello, who's speaking, please?* 2 *esp. BrE* (an expression of surprise): *Hello! Where's he gone?* 3 (a call for attention to a distant person): *Hello! Is anybody there?* 4 **Hello, hello, hello, what's all this here?** *BrE* a phrase used by policemen in humorous stories and jokes

### hell's angels

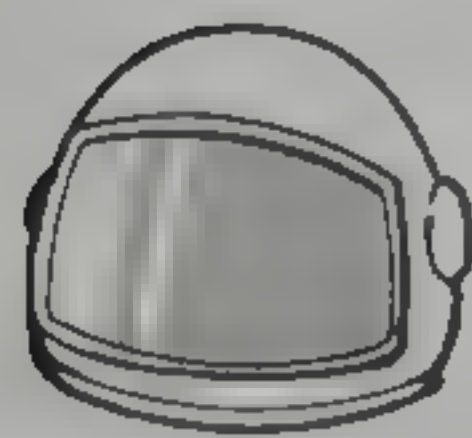


**hell's angel** /,·' ɪ·/ *n* (often caps.) a member of a group (CHAPTER) of badly behaved and sometimes violent young people who wear black clothes and ride MOTORBIKES. Hell's Angels were common in the 1960s.

**hell-uv-a** /'heləvə/ *adj infml* a hell of a; a great deal of: *It makes a helluva difference.*

**helm** /helm/ *n* 1 **a** the TILLER or wheel which guides a ship (*esp. in the phrase at the helm*) **b** the position from which things are controlled: *How long has the present director been at the helm?* 2 *old use* a helmet

### helmets



astronaut's helmet



crash helmet



fireman's helmet

see also picture at hat

**hel-met** /'helmɪt/ *n* a strong covering to protect the head, as formerly worn by soldiers in armour, and now worn by people who might hurt their heads in accidents or at work, such as CYCLISTS, MOTORCYCLISTS, policemen, firemen, or miners —compare HARD HAT; see also CRASH HELMET

**hel-met-ed** /'helmɪtɪd/ *adj* wearing a helmet

**Helms** /helmz/, **Jes-se** /'dʒesi/ (1921– ) a Republican senator from North Carolina who is known for being REACTIONARY (=strongly opposed to social change)

**Helms-ley** /'helmzli/, **Le-o-na** /li'əʊnə/ (1921– ) an American owner of expensive New York hotels, who often appeared in advertisements for them. In 1989 she was found guilty of tax EVASION (=not paying taxes she owed) and she began serving a prison sentence in 1992.

**helms-man** /'helmzmən/ *n -men* /mən/ *esp. lit* a person who guides and controls, *esp. when at the HELM of a boat*

**Hél-o-ise** /'eləʊiz/ || 'he-/ the lover and wife of Peter Abelard —see Peter ABELARD

**help**<sup>1</sup> /help/ *v* 1 [I;T (with)] to make it possible for (someone) to do something, by doing part of the work oneself;

be of use to (someone in doing something); ASSIST: *Is there anything I can do to help?* | *Thank you for helping us.* | *Can you help me with my homework?* [+obj+to-v] *The neighbours helped us to move the piano.* [+obj+to-v] *They helped us move it.* [+obj+adv/prep] *Let me help you in with those bags.* (=Let me help you bring them in.) | *I helped her into her coat.* | *"Can I help you?"* (=May I show you anything?) *said the shop assistant.* 2 [T] to encourage, improve, or produce favourable conditions for (something): *The fall in the oil price will help our economic development.* | *Helped by favourable weather, the country produced a record harvest.* [+obj+to-v/to-v] *All this arguing isn't going to help us (to) win the election.* 3 [I;T] to make (a person or situation) better or less painful; RELIEVE: *Crying won't help (you).* | *What have you got that will help a cold?* 4 [T] to avoid, prevent, or have control over (only with **can/can't/couldn't**): *He can't help his rather loud voice.* | *She can't help herself, she doesn't mean to be so rude.* | *I can't help it* (=It's not my fault) *if all the trains are cancelled.* | *He never does any more work than he can help.* (=He does as little as possible.) [+v-ing] *I couldn't help laughing when I saw his haircut.* | *I can't help thinking that we've made a big mistake.* 5 [T (to)] to give something to (someone) or take something for (oneself): *"Can I have a drink?" "Help yourself!"* | *Let me help you to some more potatoes.* | *The money was on the table and no one was there, so he helped himself (to it).* (=he stole it) 6 **be helping the police with their inquiries** *BrE* to be being questioned by the police because they think that you have committed (COMMIT) a crime 7 **It can't be helped** these things happen, we must accept it: *It's a pity the weather's so bad for our holiday, but it can't be helped.* 8 **so help me/so help me God** on my solemn promise: *I swear to tell the truth, so help me God.* | *I'll pay you back, so help me (I will)! — ~ er n*

▷ **USAGE** Compare **help**, **assist**, and **aid**. 1 **Help** and **assist** often have the same meaning but **assist** is more formal and always suggests that the person being assisted is doing part of the work: *I can't push the car on my own — will someone help/assist (fml) me?* If someone is in difficulties you **help** (not **assist**) them: *They helped (=saved) the drowning man.* | *His job consists of helping old people who live alone.* **Aid fml** is like **help** but is not so commonly used. 2 **Help** can be followed by a verb in the infinitive form: *He helped me (to) pass my exam* (=I passed). **Assist** and **aid** are not used in this way.◁

**help** (sbdy.) **out** *phr v* [I;T] to give help (to someone) at a time of need: *My mother helped me out (with some money) when I lost my job.* | *The children help out in their father's shop when things are busy.*

**help**<sup>2</sup> *n* 1 [U] the act of helping; AID; ASSISTANCE: *Can I give you any help?* | *Can I be of any help?* | *We got it open with the help of a knife.* | *I couldn't have done it without your help.* | *I'm afraid the patient is beyond help.* (=can no longer be helped) 2 [C (to)] something or someone that helps: *You've been a great help.* | *I find this new machine quite a help.* 3 [C] *BrE* || **helper** *AmE—* a person, *esp. female*, who is employed to do some of someone else's housework: *a home help provided by the local authority* | *She has a help in twice a week.* 4 [U] *esp. AmE* workers, *esp. house servants*: *Good help is hard to find.* 5 **Help!** Please bring help, I'm in danger! 6 **There's no help for it** The damage has been done, and nothing can now be done to improve the situation

**help-ful** /'helpfəl/ *adj* [(to, in)] providing help or willing to help; useful: *a helpful boy/map/suggestion* | *It was very helpful of you to do that typing for me.* — *~ ly adv* — *~ ness n* [U]

**help-ing** /'helpɪŋ/ *n* [(of)] a serving of food; PORTION: *I'd like a second helping, I'm still hungry!* | large helpings

**helping hand** /,·' ɪ·/ *n* give/lend someone a helping hand to give help and support to someone who needs it

**help-less** /'helpləs/ *adj* unable to look after oneself or take action to help oneself: *a helpless child* | *Without proper defences, we'd be helpless against an enemy attack/helpless to prevent an enemy attack.* — *~ ly adv* — *~ ness n* [U]

**help-line** /'helplɪn/ *n* a telephone number you can ring if you need the special advice or information offered, e.g. on personal problems or financial matters —compare CRISIS LINE

**help-mate** /'helpmeɪt/ also **help-meet** /-mɪt/ — *n esp. bibl* a helpful partner, usu. a wife



**Help the Aged** /,hɛl pə 'eɪd/ a British organization (CHARITY) which collects money and helps old people

**Hel-sin-ki** /hel'sɪŋki/ the capital of Finland

**Helsinki Ac-cords** /,hɛl'sɪŋki/ also **Helsinki A-gree-ment** /,hɛl'sɪŋki/ [the] a written agreement which encourages peace in Europe. It was signed in August 1975 by 35 European countries, including Britain, and by the US, Canada, and the USSR.

**hel-ter-skel-ter** /,heltə 'skeltər/ n esp. BrE an amusement in a FAIRGROUND where one sits down and slides from the top of a tower to the bottom, moving round and round it

**helter-skelter**² *adv, adj* (done) in a great and disorderly hurry: *She ran helter-skelter down the stairs.*

**helve** /helv/ n the handle of an AXE or a similar tool

**Hel-vel-lyn** /hel'velɪn/ a mountain in the Lake District in NW England

**hem**¹ /hem/ n the edge of a piece of cloth that is turned under and sewn down, esp. the lower edge of a skirt or dress: *The dress was too long, so I took the hem up.* (=made it shorter)

**hem**² *v* -mm- [T] 1 to put a hem on 2 AmE to take the hem up in order to shorten: *Could you hem my trousers?*

**hem** sbdy. ↔ *in phr v* [T] to surround tightly so that movement is impossible; CONFINE: *The army was hemmed in by the enemy with no hope of escape.* | (fig.) *hemmed in by planning restrictions*

**he-man** /'hɛmən/ || also **macho-man** AmE— n *infml*, often *humor* a man who wants people to see that he is a strong man with powerful muscles

**He-ming-way** /'hɛmɪŋweɪ/, **Er-nest** /'ɜːnɪst/ 'ɜːr-/ (1898–1961) one of the great 20th-century American writers. He wrote many NOVELS and short stories in a very direct style, celebrating men who are strong.

**hem-i-sphere** /'hɛmɪsfiə/ n 1 half a SPHERE (an object which is round like a ball) 2 a half of the Earth, esp. the northern or southern halves above and below the EQUATOR, or the eastern or western half: *What is the largest city in the southern hemisphere?* —see picture at GLOBE 3 either of the two halves of the brain: *the right hemisphere of the brain*

**hem-line** /'hɛmlaɪn/ n the length of a dress, skirt, etc., as shown by the position of the hem. At most times in the history of fashion the height of women's hemlines has been very important.

**hem-lock** /'hɛmlɒk/ -lɔːk/ n [C;U] (poison made from) a poisonous plant with white flowers and finely divided leaves. When they hear this word some people think of the ancient Greek thinker Socrates, who was killed by being made to drink hemlock.

**Hemlock So-ci-e-ty** /'hɛmlɒk sɔːsiəti/ n an American organization which supports the belief that SUICIDE (=killing oneself) is a reasonable choice, esp. for the old and sick, and should be made legal and discussed —compare EXIT and see also EUTHANASIA

**he-mo-glo-bin** /,hi:mə'gləʊbɪn/ 'hi:mə'gləʊbɪn/ n [U] HAE-MOGLOBIN

**he-mo-phil-i-a** /,hi:mə'fɪliə/ n [U] HAEMOPHILIA

**he-mo-phil-i-ac** /,hi:mə'fɪliæk-/ n HAEMOPHILIAC

**hem-or-rhage** /'hɛmərɪdʒ/ n [C;U] HAEMORRHAGE

**hem-or-rhoids** /'hɛmərɔɪdz/ n [*usu. pl.*] HAEMORRHOIDS

**hemp** /hemp/ n [U] any of a family of plants which are used for making strong rope and a rough cloth, and some of which produce the drug CANNABIS

**hen** /hen/ n 1 a female bird often kept for its eggs on farms; female chicken —see also CHICK, CLUCK¹ A woman who worries about her children and wants to know where they are is sometimes compared to a mother hen. 2 any female bird of which the male is the COCK: *The cock has brighter coloured feathers than the hen.* | *a hen pheasant* 3 (used informally as a friendly form of address in Scotland): *What's the matter, hen?*

**hen-bane** /'hɛnbɛɪn/ n [C;U] (poison made from) a poisonous wild plant with yellow flowers

**hence** /hens/ *adv fml* 1 (often in a phrase without a verb) for this reason or from this origin; therefore: *The town was built near a bridge on the River Cam; hence the name*

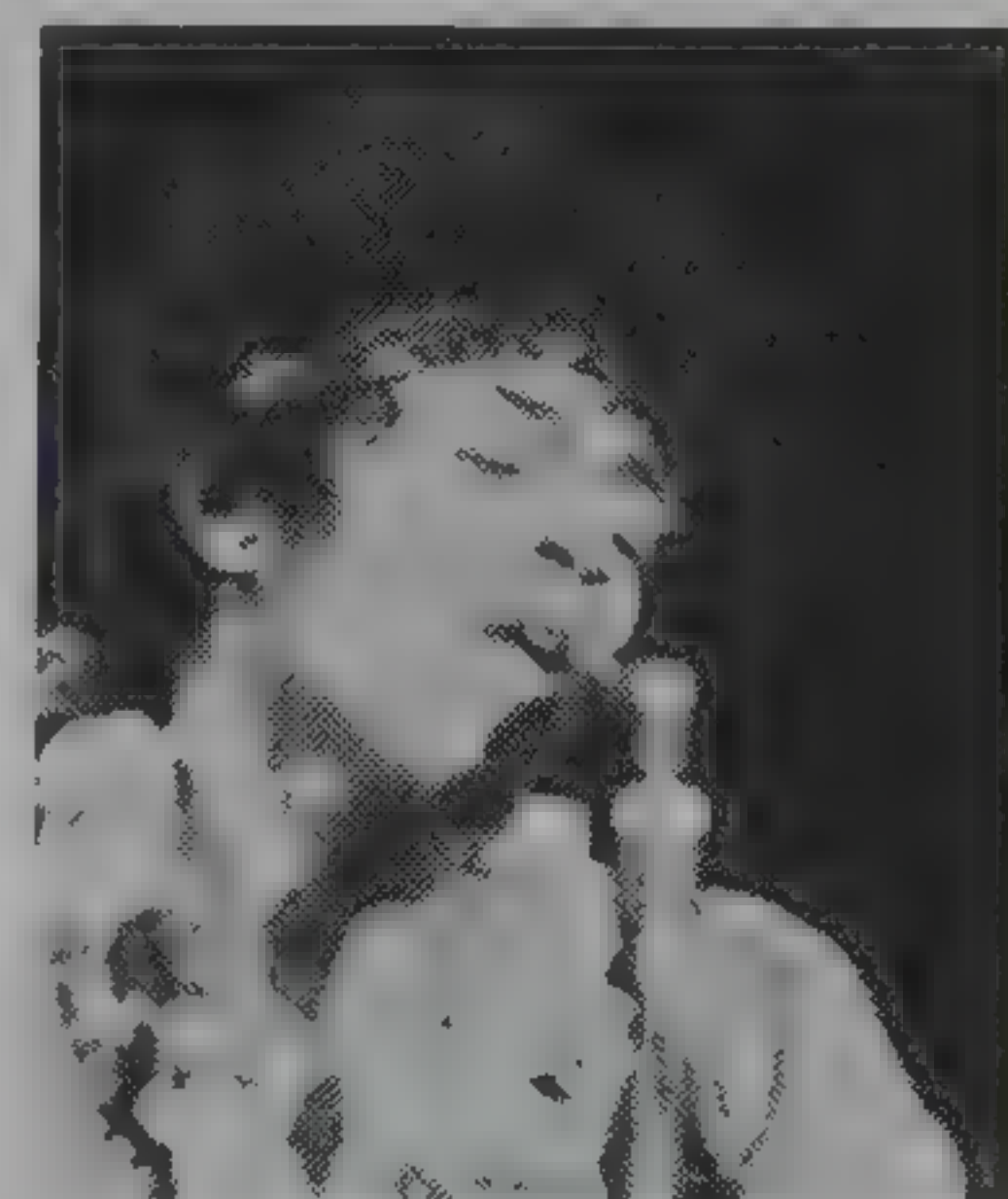
*Cambridge.* 2 from here or from now: *2 miles hence* | *3 days hence*

**hence-forth** /,hens'fɔːθ, 'hensfɔːθ/ -ɔːrθ/ also **hence-for-ward** /,hens'fɔːwəd/ -'fɔːrwəd/ — *adv fml* from this time on; from now: *Following our merger with Brown Brothers, the company will henceforth be known as Johnson and Brown Inc.* —compare **HEREAFTER**

**hench-man** /'hentsmən/ n -men /mən/ *usu. derog* a faithful supporter, esp. of a political leader or criminal, who obeys without question and may use violent or dishonest methods

**Hen-drix** /'hendriks/, Jim-i /'dʒɪmi/ (1942–70) an American popular music singer and GUITAR player who was one of the most influential ROCK³ musicians and known for his exciting performances. His early death was caused by drink and drugs.

Jimi Hendrix



**hen house** /'hɛn haʊs/ n a *usu.* wooden hut in which hens are kept. In Britain now some people still have hens which they put in a henhouse at night, but most eggs and chickens are produced in BATTERY farms.

**Hen-ley Re-gat-ta** /,henli rɪ'gætə/ also **Henley**— a meeting for races between rowing boats at Henley, a town on the Thames. Henley Regatta is an important social event for upper-class and fashionable people, and also at this event businesses entertain people who might buy goods from them.

**hen-na** /'hɛnə/ n [U] a reddish-brown DYE made from a type of bush and used to colour the hair, fingernails, etc.

**hen par-ty** /'hɛn pɑːti/ n *infml* a party for women only, esp. one just before a woman's wedding —compare **STAG PARTY**

**hen-pecked** /'hɛnpekt/ *adj* (of a man) continually nagged (NAG) by one's wife and completely obedient to her: *a henpecked husband*

**Henry I** /,henri ðə 'fɜːst/ -'fɜːrst/ (1068–1135) an English king (1100–35), the youngest son of William the Conqueror

**Henry II** /,henri ðə 'sekənd/ an English king (1154–89). Henry II tried to gain more power for the state and to weaken the power of the Church. He got his men to murder the Archbishop of Canterbury (head of the Church in England), Thomas à Becket.

**Henry III** /,henri ðə 'θɜːd/ -'θɜːrd/ (1207–72) an English king (1216–72). He fought many wars which made him unpopular with the BARONS (=noblemen). Led by Simon de Montfort they fought him, but lost.

**Henry IV** /,henri ðə 'fɔːθ/ -'fɔːrθ/ 1 (1366–1413) an English king (1399–1413) who seized power from Richard II, and spent his time as king fighting the Welsh, the Scots, and others opposed to his rule 2 a play by William Shakespeare about the life of King Henry IV

**Henry V** /,henri ðə 'fɪfθ/ 1 (1387–1422) an English king (1413–22) who is remembered esp. for defeating the French at the Battle of Agincourt 2 a play by William Shakespeare about the life of King Henry V —see colour picture on page 1146

**Henry VI** /,henri ðə 'sɪksθ/ (1421–71) an English king (1422–61, 1470–71). During Henry's rule there was great dissatisfaction with the government. This led to the Wars of the Roses, in which Henry was finally murdered.

**Henry VII** /,henri ðə 'sevənθ/ also **Henry Tudor**— (1457–1509) an English king (1485–1509). He defeated Richard III at the battle of Bosworth Field, and married to unite the families of York and Lancaster and so ended the Wars of the Roses between the two families.

**Henry VIII** /,henri ðə 'eɪtθ/ (1491–1547) the most famous English king (1509–47). The most well-known fact about Henry VIII is that he had six wives. His first wife, Catherine of Aragon, failed to bear him a son, but the Pope would not allow him to DIVORCE her. As a result, the Church of England broke away from the Roman Catholic church, and Henry married Anne Boleyn. She was later found guilty of ADULTERY (=making love with another man) and Henry had her head cut off. His other wives



were Jane Seymour, who died while giving birth to a child, Anne of Cleves, who Henry divorced, Catherine Howard, who was executed (EXECUTE), and Catherine Parr, who lived on after Henry's death. Henry encouraged learning and allowed the Bible to be printed in English. Under Henry England became richer and more powerful.

**Henry, John** a character in American stories and FOLK songs who worked on railways and was very strong

**Henry, Len-ny** /'leni/ (1958– ) a popular British entertainer and COMEDIAN, often seen on television

**Henry, O.** (1862–1910) an American writer of short stories

**Henry, Pat-rick** /'pætrɪk/ (1736–99) an American leader during the American Revolution, famous for his phrase "Give me liberty, or give me death!"

**Henry, Prince** (1984– ) the second son of the Prince and Princess of Wales. He is known as **Prince Harry**.

**Henry Tudor** /'.. '.../ see HENRY VII

**Henry Wood Prom-e-nade Con-cert** /, .. . , .. / *n fml* a PROMENADE CONCERT: *Tonight we come to the fifth in our season of Henry Wood Promenade Concerts.*

**Hen-son** /'hensən/, **Jim** /dʒɪm/ (1936–90) the man who thought of, made, and operated the Muppets, a popular set of PUPPETS (=toy people and animals made to move by a person who is hidden from the viewer) including Kermit the frog, Miss Piggy, Oscar, and the Cookie Monster, who appeared on the television shows *Sesame Street* and *The Muppet Show*

**hep-a-ti-tis** /, hepə'taɪtɪs/ *n* [U] a disease of the LIVER that causes physical weakness and JAUNDICE (=yellowness of the skin)

**hepatitis A** /, .... '.../ *n* [U] a usu. less severe form of hepatitis, carried by infected food or water

**hepatitis B** /, .... '.../ *n* [U] a form of hepatitis carried in infected blood or HYPODERMIC needles

**Hep-burn** /'hepbɜːn||-bɜːrn/, **Au-drey** /'ɔːdri/ (1929–93) an actress of great beauty who appeared in British and American films of the 1950s and 1960s, and was later known for her work with children in the Third World

Katharine Hepburn and Spencer Tracey



**Hepburn, Kath-a-rine** /'kæθəˈrɪn/ (1909– ) an American film actress remembered esp. for her role in the films *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner* and *On Golden Pond*

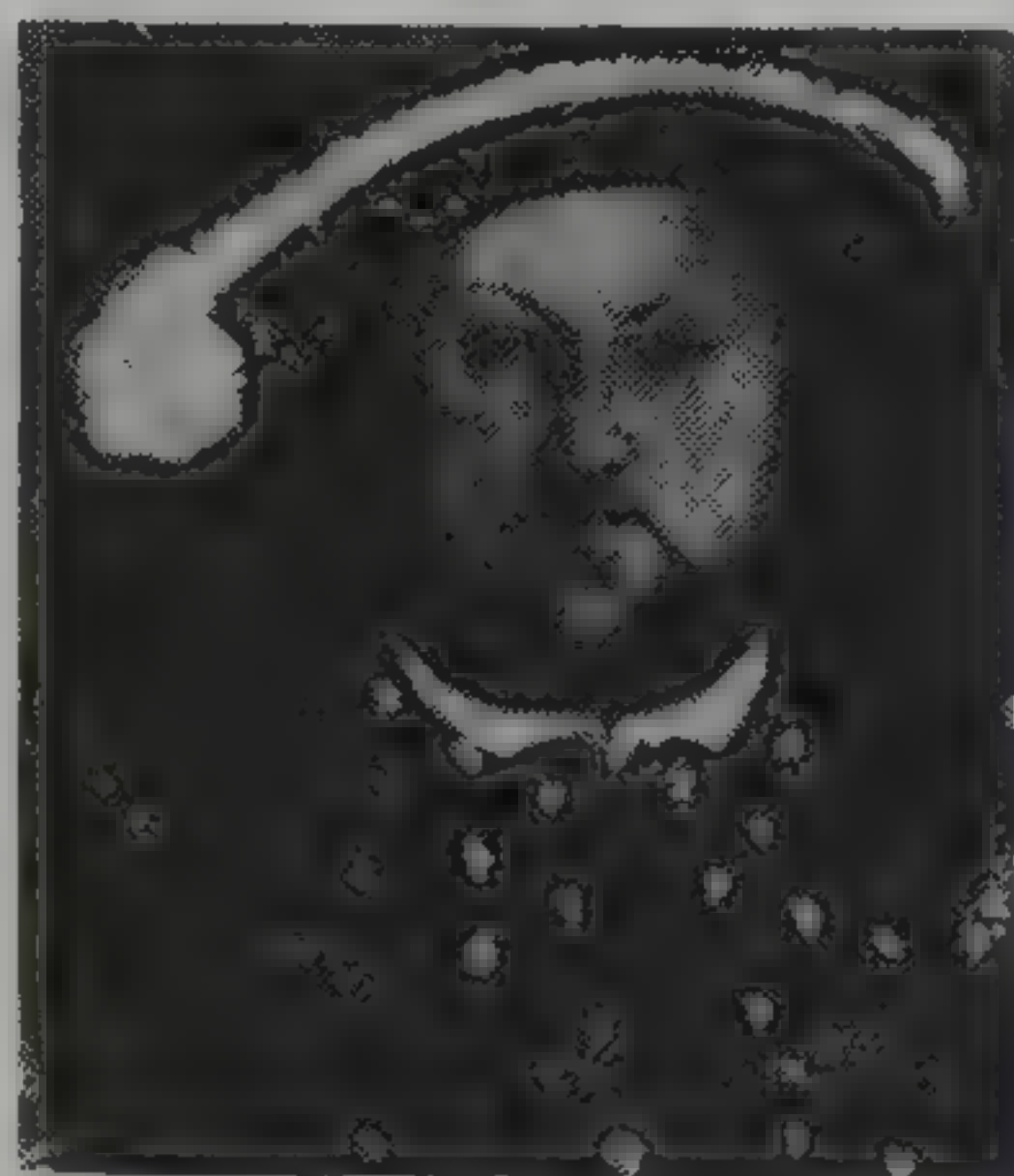
**He-phaes-tus** /hɪ'fɪzstəs||-'fes-/ in CLASSICAL MYTHOLOGY the Greek god of fire and metalwork (Roman name Vulcan)

**hep-ta-gon** /'heptəɡən||-ɡɑːn/ *n* a shape with seven sides — *al* /hep'tæɡənəl/ *adj*

**Hep-worth** /'hepwɜːθ||-wɜːθ/, **Bar-ba-ra** /'bɑːbərə || 'bɑːr-/ (1903–75) an English SCULPTOR known for the ABSTRACT style of her work

**her** /əˈ, hɜː; strong hɜː/ *determiner* (possessive form of SHE) 1 of or belonging to her: *Mary sat down in her chair.* |

King Henry VIII



*You should ask her opinion. | It was her first attempt.* 2 (used of vehicles, countries, etc., that are thought of as female): *the ship with all her passengers*

**her**<sup>2</sup> *pron* (object form of SHE): *Where is she? Can you see her? | Give her the keys|Give the keys to her. | | Which is the girl you know? Is that her? | God bless this ship and all who sail in her! —see ME (USAGE)*

**He-ra** /'hɪərə/ in CLASSICAL MYTHOLOGY, the wife of Zeus and the Greek goddess who protected women and marriage. She was well-known for her jealousy. (Roman name Juno)

**her-ald**<sup>1</sup> /'herəld/ *n* 1 (in former times) a person who carried messages from a ruler and gave important news to the people 2 (esp. in Britain) an official person who keeps records of the COATS OF ARMS of noble families 3 [(of)] *lit* something that is a sign of something about to come, happen, etc.: *a herald of spring* —compare HARBINGER

**herald**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T (IN)] *fml* or *lit* to be a sign of (something coming or about to happen): *Their new offer may herald a breakthrough in the peace talks. | The singing of the birds heralded (in) the day.*

**he-ral-dic** /he'rældɪk/ *adj* of or concerning heraldry

**Herald of Free En-ter-prise** /, .. . '.../ also **Herald**—[the] a cross-Channel FERRY which turned over in the port of Zeebrugge in Belgium in 1987, drowning many people. The accident happened because the doors at the front of the ship (the BOW (5) doors) had been left open.

**her-ald-ry** /'herəldri/ *n* [U] the study and use of COATS OF ARMS

**Herald Trib-une** /, .. '.../ also **International Herald Trib-une** [the] a daily international English-language newspaper which gets some of its articles from American newspapers, and is esp. popular with Americans abroad

**herb** /hɜːb||ɜːrb, hɜːrb/ *n* any of several kinds of small plant which are used to improve the taste of food or to make medicine: *The sauce is flavoured with herbs, including marjoram and basil.*

**her-ba-ceous** /hə'beɪfəs || hɜːr'beɪ-, ɜːr'beɪ-/ *adj fml* or *tech* (of a plant) soft-stemmed, not woody

**herbaceous bor-der** /, .. '.../ *n* a long flower bed of herbaceous plants that do not die in the winter. Herbaceous borders are a typical feature of English gardens and are usu. very colourful in the summer.

**herb-al**<sup>1</sup> /'hɜːbəl||'ɜːr-, 'hɜːr-/ *adj* made of herbs: *herbal medicine | herbal tobacco*

**herbal**<sup>2</sup> *n* a book, usu. an old one, about herbs, esp. about their use as medicine

**herb-al-ist** /'hɜːbəlɪst||'ɜːr-, 'hɜːr-/ *n* a person who grows, sells, or uses herbs, esp. one who uses herbs to treat disease. In Britain, herbalists do not usu. work within the National Health Service, and herbal medicine is considered to be an ALTERNATIVE MEDICINE.

**herbal medi-cine** /, .. '... || , .. '.../ *n* [U, C] the prevention or treatment of ill health with the use of particular plants known for their medicinal properties —see also ALTERNATIVE MEDICINE

**Her-bert** /'hɜːbət||'hɜːrbət/, **George** (1593–1633) an English METAPHYSICAL poet

**herb gar-den** /'... '.../ *n* a garden in which only herbs are grown. Very often different herbs are grown in different parts to make a pattern.

**herb-i-cide** /'hɜːbɪsaɪd||'hɜːrb-, 'ɜːrb-/ *n* [C; U] *tech* a substance used to kill WEEDS (=unwanted wild plants); WEEDKILLER

**her-bi-vore** /'hɜːbɪvɔːr || 'hɜːr-, 'ɜːr-/ *n* a plant-eating animal: *Rabbits are herbivores; lions are not.* —compare CARNIVORE, OMNIVORE —**vorous** /hɜː'bɪvərəs || hɜːr-, ɜːr-/ *adj*

**Her-ce-go-vi-na** /, hɜːtsəɡə'vɪznə||, hearts-/ see BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA

**Her-cu-le-an, herculean** /, hɜːkju'lɪzn, hɜː'kjuːliən||-ɜːr-/ *adj fml* needing or using very great strength or determination: *a Herculean task | a Herculean effort*

**Her-cu-les** /'hɜːkjʊlɪz||'hɜːr-/ in CLASSICAL MYTHOLOGY, a man admired for performing the 12 Labours of Hercules, actions which were extremely difficult and needed great strength. The name is now often used to describe



someone who completes difficult jobs or has great strength: *a difficult job even for Hercules*

**herd**<sup>1</sup> /hɜːd||hɜːrd/ *n* 1 [C+*sing./pl. v*] a group of animals of one kind which live and feed together: *a herd of cattle/elephants* —compare FLOCK<sup>1</sup> (1) 2 [C] (*in comb.*) someone who looks after a herd: *a shepherd* | *a goatherd* 3 [*the+S+sing./pl. v*] *derog* people generally, thought of as easily led or influenced, without having their own thoughts or opinions: *to follow the herd* (=do just what everyone else does) | *the herd instinct* (=a feeling which makes a group act alike, esp. in being unfriendly towards strangers)

**herd**<sup>2</sup> *v* 1 [T] to look after or drive (animals) in a herd: *to herd cattle* 2 [I+*adv/prep*; T+*obj+adv/prep*] to come or bring together in a large group, esp. roughly: *They herded together/herded into the corner.* | *They herded the prisoners into the courtyard.* | *The tourists were herded into their bus.*

**herds-man** /'hɜːdzmən||-z:r-/ *n* -**men** /mən/ a man who looks after a herd of animals

**here**<sup>1</sup> /hiə/ *adv* 1 at, in, or to this place or point: *How long have you lived here?* | *It's about two miles from here.* | *Come here!* | *It hurts just here.* | *Here in London, the temperature is 20 degrees.* | *Here is where I want to stay.* | *Come over* (=across to) *here.* | *They're here!* (=They have arrived.) | *At last the holidays are here.* (=the time for them has come) | (*fig.*) *You may not like computers, but they're here to stay.* (=they have become, and will remain, a part of life) 2 at this point: *Here we agree.* | *We've found the cause of the problem, so where do we go from here?* (=what should we do next?) 3 *a* (used for drawing attention to something or someone): *Here comes John.* | *Here he comes!* | *Here it is!* (=I've found it.) | *It is ten o'clock and here is the news.* *b* (used when giving something to someone): *Here's the pound I owe you.* | *Here you are, John.* 4 [after *n*] being present; in this place: *The sergeant here will take a statement from you.* | *It's this one here that I want.* 5 *here and there* scattered about: *There were clothes lying here and there on the floor.* 6 **Here goes!** Now I'm going to have a try (to do something, esp. something difficult): *I've never been on a horse before — well, here goes!* 7 **Here's to** (said when drinking a TOAST<sup>1</sup> (2)): *Here's to Sarah in her new job!* 8 *here, there, and everywhere* *in fml* in every place 9 *here today and gone tomorrow* *in fml* remaining a very short time 10 *neither here nor there* not connected with the matter being talked about; *IRRELEVANT*: *I know a lot of people like the idea, but that's neither here nor there: we just can't afford it.*

**here**<sup>2</sup> *interj* 1 (used to call someone's attention or express annoyance): *Here! What do you think you are doing?* 2 **Look here** also **See here**— Pay attention to my warning: *Look here, I can't allow this kind of behaviour in my house.*

**here-a-bouts** /,hiərə'baʊts, 'hiərəbaʊts/ also **here-a-bout** /-aʊt/ *AmE— adv* somewhere near here: *I think I saw a post office somewhere hereabouts.*

**here-after**<sup>1</sup> /,hiərə'ɑːftə||-æf-/ *adv fml* after this time; in the future —compare HENCEFORTH, THEREAFTER

**hereafter**<sup>2</sup> *n* [(*the*)S] the life after death: *Her religion promises happiness in the hereafter.* | *Do you believe in a hereafter?* —compare AFTERLIFE

**here-by** /,hiə'baɪ, 'hiəbaɪ||-ər-/ *adv fml or law* by means of this statement, law, etc.; by doing or saying this: *I hereby declare her elected.* —compare THEREBY

**Here Comes the Bride** /, . . . ' / a piece of music which is often played at the beginning of a marriage ceremony, when the BRIDE begins to walk up the AISLE of the church —compare WEDDING MARCH

**her-e-dit-a-ment** /,herɪ'dɪtəmənt/ *n law* land and property which can be passed on after the death of the owner to his/her relatives

**he-red-i-ta-ry** /hɪ'redɪtəri||-teri/ *adj* 1 *a* (of a position, title, etc.) which can be passed down from an older to a younger person, esp. in the same family: *a hereditary peer/peerage* *b* (of a person) having the legal right to receive such a position, title, etc.: *a hereditary peer* 2 (of a quality or condition of the mind or body) which can be passed down from parent to child in the cells of the body: *a hereditary disease* | *a hereditary ability* —see also INHERIT —**rily** *adv*

**he-red-i-ty** /hɪ'redɪti/ *n* [U] 1 the fact that living things have the ability to pass on their own qualities from parent to child in the cells of the body: *Some diseases are present by heredity.* 2 the passing of possessions as well as qualities of mind and body from parents to children, esp. from father to oldest son: *Heredity is very important to the upper classes. They like the continuity suggested by the passing down of property from one generation to another.*

**Her-e-ford** /'herɪfəd||-fərd/ a small city with a cathedral in the W of England

**Hereford and Worces-ter** /, . . . ' / a COUNTY in the W of central England

**He-re-ford-shire** /'herɪfədʃə||-fər-/ one of the old counties (COUNTY) of England, which is now part of Hereford and Worcester

**here-in** /,hiər'ɪn/ *adv fml or law* in this piece of writing, esp. in this: . . . *and everything herein contained* | *The law does not recognize this type of evidence, and herein lies the problem.* —compare THEREIN

**here-in-after** /,hiərɪn'ɑːftə||-æf-/ *adv law* later in this official paper, statement, etc.: *Messrs Wilson and Cartwright, hereinafter referred to as "the insurers",* . . .

**here-of** /,hiər'ɒv||-ʌv, -'ɑːv/ *adv fml or law* of or belonging to this: . . . *every part hereof* —compare THEREOF

**her-e-sy** /'herɪsi/ *n* [C;U] (the fact of holding) a belief that is against the official or accepted beliefs of a religion or other group: *She was burned at the stake for heresy in the 14th century.* | *The minister's speech will be regarded as heresy by most members of her party.*

**her-e-tic** /'herɪtɪk/ *n* a person who is guilty of heresy — *~al* /hɪ'retɪkəl/ *adj*

**here-to** /,hiə'tuː||,hiər'tuː/ *adv fml or law* to this (agreement or piece of writing)

**here-to-fore** /,hiətu'fɔː||'hiətu'fɔːr/ *adv fml or law* until now; before this time; HITHERTO: *Meetings will continue to be held on Thursdays, as heretofore.*

**here-up-on** /,hiərə'pɒn||-pɑːn/ *adv fml* at or after this point in time —compare THEREUPON

**Here, We Go** /, . . . ' / a song sung in Britain by large groups of young men, esp. football supporters, to encourage each other and frighten other people

**here-with** /,hiə'wɪð||,hiər-/ *adv fml* (esp. in business) with this (letter or written material): *I enclose herewith two copies of the contract.*

**Her-gé** /'eəʒeɪ||eər'zeɪ/ (1907–83) a Belgian writer, famous esp. for the *Tintin* stories

**Her-i-ot-Watt U-ni-ver-si-ty** /,heriət ,wɒt juːnɪ'vɜːsɪti||-,wɒt juːnɪ'vɜːr-/ a university in Edinburgh which specializes in scientific and technical subjects

**her-i-ta-ble** /'herɪtəbəl/ *adj fml or law* 1 (of property, qualities, etc.) which can be passed on to one's descendants; HEREDITARY 2 having the right to INHERIT

**her-i-tage** /'herɪtɪdʒ/ *n* [S;U] an object, custom, or quality which is passed down over many years within a nation, social group, or family, and is thought of as something valuable and important which belongs to all its members: *These beautiful old churches are part of our national heritage.* | *preserving our cultural heritage* —compare INHERITANCE; see also NATIONAL HERITAGE

**her-maph-ro-dite** /hɜː'mæfrədaɪt||hɜːr-/ *n, adj* (a living thing) with the organs or appearance of both male and female —**ditic** /hɜː,mæfrə'dɪtɪk||hɜːr-/ *adj*

**Her-mes** /'hɜːmɪz||'hɜːr-/ the Greek name for the Roman messenger of the Gods, Mercury —see MERCURY

**her-met-ic** /hɜː'metɪk||hɜːr-/ *adj* 1 *tech* very tightly closed; AIRTIGHT: *A hermetic seal prevents the escape of radioactive material.* 2 *old use* concerning magic or ALCHEMY: *hermetic writings* — *~ally* /kli/ *adv*: *The container is hermetically sealed.*

**her-mit** /'hɜːmɪt||'hɜːr-/ *n* a person who lives alone, esp. for religious reasons

**her-mit-age** /'hɜːmɪtɪdʒ||'hɜːr-/ *n* a place where a hermit lives or has lived

**Hermitage** [*the*] one of the world's great MUSEUMS, in St Petersburg in the former USSR, esp. famous for its IMPRESSIONIST paintings





There is a famous scene in this book where Alice has tea with the Mad Hatter, the March Hare and the dormouse



**Peter Pan** by J. M. Barrie

The picture shows Peter Pan, Tinkerbell and Wendy and her brothers flying above Captain Hook and the pirates.



Robin Hood and his followers who were known as the Merry Men

The Merry Men

The Sheriff of Nottingham

Maid Marion

Robin Hood

Friar Tuck

Little John

They all lived in Sherwood Forest and took money from the rich to give to the poor. Their enemy was the Sheriff of Nottingham.

Headless Horseman

Ichabod Crane

*The Legend of Sleepy Hollow* by Washington Irving

In this story Ichabod Crane is chased by the Headless Horseman (a rider with no head)



**hermit crab** /'hɜːrɪt ˈkræb/ *n* a kind of CRAB that lives in the empty, used shells of other sea creatures

**her-ni-a** /'hɜːniə/ also **rupture**— *n* [C;U] the medical condition in which an organ pushes through its covering wall, usu. when the bowel is pushed through the stomach wall

**he-ro** /'hɪərəʊ/ *n* -roes **1** **heroine** *fem.*— a someone who is admired for their bravery, goodness, or great ability, esp. someone who has performed an act of great courage under very dangerous conditions: *a war hero* | *The real hero of the match was the Tottenham goalkeeper.* **b** the most important character in a play, poem, story, etc. — compare ANTIHERO **2** *AmE* a SANDWICH made of a long loaf of bread filled with meat, cheese, SALAD, etc. — see also SUBMARINE SANDWICH

**Her-od** /'herəd/ *n* a wicked king in Israel when Jesus Christ was born. He had all the young Jewish boys killed to try and make sure that Jesus did not become king, but Jesus' mother Mary and her husband Joseph took the young Jesus to safety in Egypt — see also FLIGHT INTO EGYPT, OUT-HEROD

**he-ro-ic** /hɪ'reɪʊk/ *adj* **1** showing the qualities of a hero; extremely courageous: *heroic deeds* | *heroic resistance to the evil dictator* **2** *tech* of or concerning heroes: *heroic poems* — ~ally /kli/ *adv*

**heroic coup-let** /'hɪərəʊk ˈkʊplɪt/ *n* a pair of lines of a type once common in English poetry, which RHYME (=end with the same sound) and have five beats each — compare IAMBIC PENTAMETER

**he-ro-ics** /hɪ'reɪʊks/ *n* [P] *usu. derog* speech or behaviour which is intended to appear grand or brave but means nothing

**her-o-in** /'herəʊɪn/ *n* [U] a powerful drug made from MORPHINE, which the user can quickly become ADDICTED to (=dependent on). It is used medically for lessening pain but is also used illegally for pleasure: *the heroin traffic/a heroin addict*

► **CULTURAL NOTE** Misuse of heroin is growing in Britain, and has been a problem in American cities for many years. Many ADDICTS (= people who keep taking it) die. Addicts now have a new danger, the disease AIDS which they can get by sharing the needle they use to INJECT (= put in) heroin. ◀

**her-o-ine** /'herəʊɪn/ *n* see HERO (1)

**her-o-is-m** /'herəʊɪzəm/ *n* [U] very great courage: *an act of great heroism*

**her-on** /'herən/ *n* -ons or -on a type of long-legged bird which lives near water — see picture at WATER BIRD

**hero wor-ship** /'hɪərəʊ ˈwɔːʃɪp/ *n* [U] great and often secret admiration for someone who is thought to be brave, good, or have great ability. People sometimes use this word in a way that suggests that hero-worship is a rather childish emotion. It is thought to be usual in growing up that TEENAGERS go through a period of hero-worship. — **hero-worship** *v* [T]

**her-pes** /'hɜːpɪz/ also /'hɜːr-/ *n* [U] a very infectious skin disease which causes painful sores on the skin, esp. of the face or GENITALS

**Herr** /heə/ *n* (used as a title for a German man): *Herr Brandt*

**her-ring** /'herɪŋ/ *n* -rings or -ring a type of fish which swims in large groups in the sea and is used for food — see also RED HERRING

**her-ring-bone** /'herɪŋbəʊn/ *n* a pattern in which two sides slope in opposite directions, forming a continuous line of V's, e.g. in a material or in a decorative arrangement of bricks: *herringbone tweed* — see picture at PATTERN

**Her-ri-ot** /'heriət/, **James** (1916– ) a British writer of stories about the life of a country VET (=animal doctor). Many of his stories have been made into popular television plays.

**hers** /hɜːz/ also /hɜːr-/ *pron* (possessive form of SHE) of that female person or animal already mentioned: *This is my coat and hers (=her coat) is over there.* | *My shoes are brown and hers are red.* | *He's a friend of hers.*

**her-self** /ə'self, hə-; strong hɜːr-/ *pron* **1** (reflexive form of SHE): *She hurt herself.* | *She bought herself a car.* **2** (strong form of she): *She told me so herself.* | *She herself said so.* **3** *infml* (in) her usual state of

mind or body: *She was ill yesterday, but she's more herself today.* **4** (all) **by herself** alone; without help: *The little girl wrote the letter all by herself.* | *She lives by herself in the country.* **5** **to herself** for her private use; not shared: *a bedroom to herself* — see YOURSELF (USAGE)

**Her-shey bar** /'hɜːʃi bɑːr/ also /'hɜːr-/ *n* *tdmk* a bar of chocolate made by the Hershey company and sold in the US. The Hershey company also makes a small chocolate wrapped in silver-coloured paper called a **Hershey's Kiss**

**Hert-ford** /'hɑːtfəd/ also /'hɑːrtfəd/ a town N of London, where the local government for Hertfordshire is based

**Hert-ford-shire** /'hɑːtfədʃə/ also /'hɑːrtfəd-/ a COUNTY in SE England, N of London

**hertz** /hɜːts/ also /hɜːrts/ *n* **hertz** (a measure meaning) one time each second: *These radio waves are transmitted at a frequency of 15,000 cycles per second: that's 15 kilohertz or 15,000 hertz.*

**Hertz** *n* *tdmk* an international company which hires out cars to people

**he's** /ɪz, hɪz; strong hɪz/ *short for*: **1** *he is*: *He's a writer.* | *He's reading.* **2** (in compound tenses) *he has*: *He's got two cars.* | *He's had a cold.*

**Hes-el-tine** /'hesəltɪn/, **Mi-chael** /'maɪkəl/ (1933– ) an important Conservative minister in the British government in the 1980s, who left the government over the Westland Affair. In 1990 he competed with Mrs Thatcher and John Major for the leadership of the Conservative Party, and became a minister in John Major's government. He is sometimes called Tarzan in the popular newspapers because of his hairstyle.

**hes-i-tan-cy** /'hezɪtənsi/ *n* [U] the quality of being hesitant; INDECISION

**hes-i-tant** /'hezɪtənt/ *adj* showing uncertainty or slowness about deciding to act; tending to hesitate: *She's hesitant about making new friends.* | *his hesitant attempts to speak English* — ~ly *adv*

**hes-i-tate** /'hezɪteɪt/ *v* **1** [I] to pause before taking an action or making a decision: *Don't hesitate when you're crossing the road.* | *She hesitated for a moment, and then gave her agreement.* **2** [T+to-v; obj] to be unwilling to do something, esp. because it is unpleasant or because one is uncertain whether it is right: *If you need any help, don't hesitate to ask.* | *The government will not hesitate to take the severest measures against these terrorists.* **3** *he who hesitates is lost saying* if you do not do something immediately, you may never again get the chance to do it — ~tatingly *adv*

**hes-i-ta-tion** /'hezɪ'teɪʃən/ *n* [C;U] (an example of) the act of hesitating: *Without a moment's hesitation, she jumped into the river after the child.* | *I have no hesitation in recommending him for the job.*

**Hess** /hes/, **Ru-dolf** /'ruːdɒlf/ also /-ɑːlf/ (1894–1987) a German Nazi politician, second to Hitler. After the Second World War he was put in Spandau Prison in Berlin until he died.

**Hes-se** /'hesə/, **Her-mann** /'hɜːmən/ also /'hɜːr-/ (1877–1962) a German writer and poet

**hes-si-an** /'hesiən/ also /'heʃən/ *BrE* || **burlap** *AmE*— *n* [U] a type of thick rough cloth made from HEMP; SACKS used to be made of it: *hessian floor/wall coverings*

**Hes-ton** /'hestən/, **Charlton** (1923– ) an American film actor who played the leading male part in some big films full of brave action and excitement

the actor Charlton Heston as Ben Hur



**het** /het/ *adj* see HET UP

**het-e-ro-dox** /'hetərədɒks/ also /-dɔːks/ *adj* *fml* (of beliefs, practices, etc.) against accepted opinion, esp. in religion; not ORTHODOX — compare UNORTHODOX

**het-e-ro-gene-ous** /'hetərəʊ'dʒiːniəs/ also **het-e-ro-geneous** /'hetərədʒənəs/ also /-rɑː-/ *AmE*— *adj* *fml* consisting of parts or members that are very different from one another; not HOMOGENEOUS: *a*



*heterogeneous mix of nationalities* — ~ly adv — ity /,hetərəʊdʒɪˈni:zəti/ *n* [U]

**het-e-ro-sex-u-al** /,hetərəˈseksjuəl/ *adj, n* (of or being) a person who is sexually attracted to people of the other sex — compare BISEXUAL, HOMOSEXUAL, LESBIAN — ~ly adv — ~ity /,hetərəseksjuˈæləti/ *n* [U]

**het up** /,het ˈʌp/ *adj* [F (about)] *infml, usu. derog, esp. BrE* nervous, excited, and confused: *There's no need to get so het up about it, it's only an examination.*

**heu-ris-tic** /hjuəˈristik/ *adj fml* 1 (of education) based on learning by one's own personal discoveries and experiences 2 helping one in the process of learning or discovery — ~ally /kli/ *adv*

**heu-ris-tics** /hjuəˈristiks/ *n* [P;U] (the study of) the use of experience and practical efforts to find answers to questions or to improve performance

**hew** /hju:/ *v* **hewed, hewed or hewn** /hju:n/ *fml or lit* 1 [I; T] to cut or cut down using an AXE or other cutting tool; CHOP: *to hew down a tree/hew off a branch* 2 [T+obj+adv/prep] to cut and shape out from a larger mass: *to hew a canoe out of a tree trunk* | *to hew one's way through the forest* — ~er *n*

**hew-er** /ˈhju:ə/ *n* **hewers of wood and drawers of water** *BrE fml or humor* a class of people used to do the heaviest physical work

**Hew-lett Pack-ard** /,hju:lɪt ˈpækɑ:d/ *a* maker of computers and electronic equipment that operates in many countries

**hex**<sup>1</sup> /heks/ *n* [(on)] *esp. AmE* an evil curse which brings trouble: *There seems to be a hex on this car — it's always breaking down.*

**hex**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T] *esp. AmE* to put an evil curse on, esp. to cause harm or bad luck

**hex**<sup>3</sup> *adj infml* hexadecimal: *What's the hex code for 128?*

**hex-a-dec-i-mal** /,heksəˈdesɪməl/ also **hex** *infml— adj tech* based on the number 16, and using 0-9 as in decimal numbers and A-F to represent 10-15. Hexadecimal numbers have many uses in computers.

**hex-a-gon** /ˈheksəɡən/ *n* a shape with six sides — ~al /hekˈsəɡənəl/ *adj*

**hex-a-gram** /ˈheksəɡræm/ *n* a six-pointed star made up from two three-sided shapes (TRIANGLES)

**hex-am-e-ter** /hekˈsæmətə/ *n* a line of poetry with six main beats

**hey** /heɪ/ *interj infml* (a shout used to call attention or to express surprise, interest, etc.): *Hey! Where are you going?*

**hey-day** /ˈheɪdeɪ/ *n* [(the) S] the time of greatest power, influence, success, or popularity: *The 1930s were the hey-day of the big Hollywood musical.* | *In her heyday she was one of the highest-paid actresses in the country.*

**He-yer** /ˈheɪə/ *n*, **Geor-gette** /,dʒɔ:ˈdʒet/ *n* (1902–72) a writer of popular historical love stories

**hey pres-to** /,heɪ ˈprestəʊ/ *interj infml, esp BrE* (used by someone performing a magic trick) Here is the result of my trick!

**Hey-sel** /ˈhaɪsəl, ˈheɪ-/ also **Heysel Sta-di-um Di-sas-ter** /,hɪsəl ˈstædɪəm ˈdɪsəstə/ *n* the death of 39 people at a Belgian football ground in 1985, caused by a wall which fell down when English supporters of Liverpool attacked other people. After this, English teams were not allowed to play in European competitions, and action was taken to stop football violence.

**Hez-bo-llah** /,hezbuˈlɑ:/ also **Hizbollah**— a Shi'ite MILITIA group supported by Iran, who were fighting the Amal group supported by Syria, in Lebanon in the 1980s

**HGV** /,eɪtʃ dʒɪz ˈvi:z/ *n BrE* a HEAVY GOODS VEHICLE, esp. a LORRY

**HGV li-cence** /,hɪv ˈli:ns/ *n BrE* official written permission to drive a large vehicle, given after passing a special test

**hi** /haɪ/ *interj infml* (used as a greeting): *Hi, Barbara, how are you?*

**Hi** *written abbrev. for HAWAII*

**hi-a-tus** /haɪˈeɪtəs/ *n* [*usu. sing.*] 1 *fml* a break or interruption: *Talks between the two countries have resumed after a six-year hiatus.* b a space where something is missing, esp. in a piece of writing 2 *tech* a pause between (or lack of a sound which joins) two vowel sounds

**Hi-a-wath-a** /,haɪəˈwəθə/ *n* a Native American chief who helped to end tribal wars in the 1400s. He is the subject of a long poem by LONGFELLOW called *The Song of Hiawatha*. American children often learn parts of this poem, so many people are familiar with the lines:

...By the shore of Gitche Gumees,  
By the shining Big-Sea-Water,  
Stood the wigwam of Nokomis,  
Daughter of the Moon, Nokomis...

**hi-ber-nate** /ˈhaɪbəneɪt/ *v* [I] (of some animals) to be or go into a state like a long sleep during the winter: *Squirrels and hedgehogs hibernate.* — **-nation** /,haɪbəˈneɪʃən/ *n* [U]: *They've gone into hibernation.*

**Hi-ber-ni-an** /hɪˈbɜ:niən/ *n* also **Hibs** /hɪbz/ *infml* a football team based in Edinburgh

**hi-bis-cus** /haɪˈbɪskəs/ *n* [C;U] a tropical plant with large bright flowers

**hic-cup**<sup>1</sup>, **hic-cough** /ˈhɪkəp, -kəp/ *n* [*often pl.*] 1 (a sudden sharp sound caused by) a movement in the chest which stops the breath: *In the middle of the church service there was a loud hiccup from my son.* | *an attack of hiccups* 2 [(in)] a small delay or interruption: *There's been a slight hiccup in the schedule due to a computer failure.*

**hiccup**<sup>2</sup> *v* [I] to have hiccups: *I couldn't stop hiccuping.*

**hick** /hɪk/ *n esp. AmE infml, often derog* an uneducated person from the country; YOKEL — compare REDNECK

**hic-key** /ˈhɪki/ *n* **hickies** *AmE* a red mark on the neck or elsewhere on the body caused by sucking the skin. They are usu. seen on young people (TEENAGERS) who get them from a boyfriend or girlfriend: *Where did Janet get that gigantic hickey?*

**Hick-ok** /ˈhɪkək/ *n*, **Wild Bill** (1837–76) an American FRONTIERSMAN whose real name was James Butler Hickok

**hick-o-ry** /ˈhɪkəri/ *n* [C;U] (the hard wood of) a North American tree which bears nuts

**Hicks** /hɪks/, **Edward** (1780–1849) an American painter and PREACHER

**hidden a-gen-da** /,hɪdən ˈæɡəndə/ *n* a secret intention to carry out actions that would be criticized or found unacceptable if they were spoken of openly: *She came to the meeting with a hidden agenda to gain control of the budget.* | *What is the hidden agenda of the Democrats?*

**hide**<sup>1</sup> /haɪd/ *v* **hid** /hɪd/, **hidden** /ˈhɪdn/ [(from)] 1 [T] to put or keep out of sight; prevent from being seen or found; CONCEAL: *I hid the broken plate in the drawer.* | *The house was hidden from view by a row of tall trees.* | *Their conversation was recorded by a hidden microphone.* 2 [I] to place oneself or be placed so as to be unseen: *I'll hide behind the door.* | (*humor*) *Where's that book hiding?* 3 [T] to keep (facts, feelings, etc.) from being known: *I couldn't hide my disappointment.* | *I think she's hiding some important information.* | *There's a hidden meaning in this poem.* 4 **hide one's light under a bushel** *phrase from the Bible* to hide, or be MODEST about, one's ability or skill: *Come on, Bill, I know you're a good piano player — don't hide your light under a bushel!*

**hide**<sup>2</sup> *BrE* || **blind** *AmE— n* a place from which a person can watch animals or birds, without being seen by them, esp. in order to take photographs or shoot them

**hide**<sup>3</sup> *n* 1 an animal's skin, esp. when removed to be used for leather 2 **not hide or/nor hair of** *infml* no sign of: *I haven't seen hide or hair of them for 20 years at least!*

**hide-and-seek** /,hɪdən ˈsi:k/ || also **hide-and-go-seek** /,hɪdən ˈɡo:si:k/ *AmE— n* [U] a children's game in which some hide and others search for them

**hide-a-way** /ˈhaɪdəweɪ/ *n infml* a place, such as a house, where one can go to avoid people

**hide-bound** /ˈhaɪdbaʊnd/ *adj derog* (of people) having fixed, unchangeable opinions; not willing to consider new ideas; NARROW-MINDED

**Hi-de-hi** /,haɪ dɪz ˈhaɪ/ the title of a British television COMEDY programme about life in a holiday camp. In the programme, the people who work in the holiday camp use the words “hi-de-hi” as a cheerful greeting to the guests.

**hid-e-ous** /ˈhɪdiəs/ *adj* extremely ugly and/or shocking to the senses; REPUGNANT: *a hideous face* | *a hideous scream* | *hideous wounds* — ~ly adv — ~ness *n* [U]



**hid-ing**<sup>1</sup> /'haɪdɪŋ/ *n* *infml* **1** a a beating: *I'll give you a good hiding when we get home!* **b** a defeat: *The English team got quite a hiding in Paris.* **2** **be on a hiding to nothing** *BrE infml* to completely waste one's time with no chance of success: *You're on a hiding to nothing if you think you can get her to change her mind.*

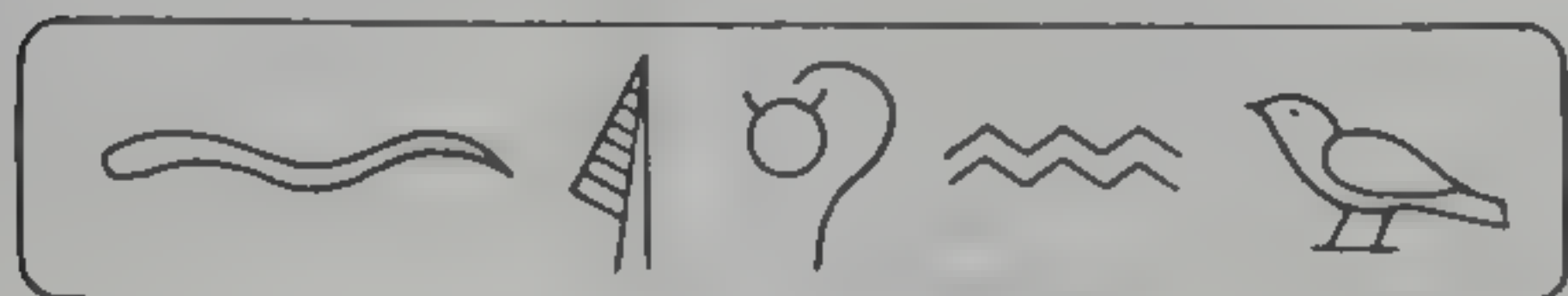
**hiding**<sup>2</sup> *n* [U] the state of being hidden (in phrases like **go into hiding**, **be in hiding**)

**hie** /haɪ/ *v* **hied**, **hying** or **hieing** [I;T] *old use or humor* to cause (one or oneself) to hurry or go quickly: *I will hie (me/myself) to the market.*

**hi-er-ar-chy** /'haɪərəʁki||-ɑːr-/ *n* **1** [C;U] a system by which the members of an organization are grouped and arranged according to higher and lower ranks, esp official ranks: *There's a very rigid hierarchy in the Civil Service.* | *the principle of hierarchy* **2** [C+*sing./pl. v*] a the group of people in an organization who have power or control: *The party hierarchy has/have the final say on matters of policy.* **b** *tech* a group of ruling priests —**chical** /haɪə-'rɑːkɪkəl||-ɑːr-/ *adj* —**chically** /kli/ *adv*

**hi-e-ro-glyph** /'haɪərəglɪf/ *n* a picture-like sign which represents a word, esp. in the writing system of ancient Egypt —**~ic** /,haɪərə'glɪfɪk-/ *adj*

### hieroglyphics



**hi-e-ro-glyph-ics** /,haɪərə'glɪfɪks/ *n* [P] a system of writing which uses hiero- glyphs

**hi-fi** /'haɪ faɪ, ,haɪ 'faɪ/ *n* **hi-fis** *becoming old-fash* **1** [C] a piece of high-quality ELECTRONIC equipment for playing recorded sound, usu. including a record player: *Have you seen our new hi-fi?* | *a hi-fi shop* | *a hi-fi system* (=radio, TAPE DECK, record player, and often CD player in one unit, with suitable LOUDSPEAKERS **2** [U] HIGH FIDELITY

**Hig-gins** /'hɪɡɪnz/, **Professor Henry** a character in George Bernard Shaw's play *Pygmalion*, who teaches Eliza Doolittle, a COCKNEY woman, to speak in an upper-class manner

**hig-gle-dy-pig-gle-dy** /,hɪɡəldɪ 'pɪɡəldɪ/ *adj, adv infml* in disorder; mixed together without system

**high**<sup>1</sup> /haɪ/ *adj* **1** (not usu. of living things) having a top that is some distance, esp. a large distance, above the ground: *How high is the wall/the mountain?* | *It's a very high building.* | *The water was waist-high.* (=as high as one's waist) **2** [after *n*] measuring in height: *four metres high* | *a building twenty storeys high* **3** at a point well above the ground or above what is usual: *That shelf is too high for me — I can't reach it.* | *The plane is high in the sky.* **4** near the top of the set of sounds which the ear can hear: *She sang a high note.* | *She has a very high voice.* **5** above the usual level, amount, rate, or degree: *I have a high opinion of her work.* | *the high cost of food* | *high blood pressure* | *a high salary* | *an area of high unemployment* | *a high-risk investment* | *high speed* | *high winds* **6** of great rank, importance, or influence: *She held high office in the last government.* | *He claims to have friends in high places.* (=people in very important positions) | *high society* | *I have it on the highest authority that he intends to resign.* **7** [A] (of time) the mid-point or most important point of: *high summer* | *It's high time we were going.* (=We should go at once.) | (lit) *high noon* **8** showing goodness in morals and character; worthy of admiration: *high principles* | *high moral standards* **9** (of certain foods) not fresh; spoilt by age: *The venison is high.* —compare GAMY **10** [F] *infml* a drunk **b** [(on)] under the effects of drugs: *high on marijuana* —opposite **low** (for 1,3,4,5,6,8); see also HIGHER, HIGHLY

▷ **USAGE** We use **high** (opposite **low**) for measurements of most things (not people), especially when we are thinking only of distance above the ground: *a high shelf* | *a high mountain* | *You can see the city from the top of that high building.* We use **tall** (opposite **short**) for people: *a tall man* and for ships: *a tall ship.* We can also use **tall** for things which are high and narrow, especially when we are thinking of the complete distance

from top to bottom: *a tall/high building* | *a tall/high tree*◀

**high**<sup>2</sup> *adv* **1** to or at a high level in position, movements or sound: *She threw the ball high into the air.* | *The bird sang high and clearly.* | *The dollar stayed high after a busy day on the foreign exchanges.* **2** to or at a high or important level in society, in an organization, etc.: *He's risen high in the world.* | *You've got to aim high if you want to succeed.* **3** **high and dry** in a helpless situation: *They took all the money and left us high and dry.* **4** **high and low** everywhere: *We searched high and low but we couldn't find it anywhere.* **5** **high on the hog** *AmE* sl well and richly: *They've been living high on the hog since they struck oil.*

**high**<sup>3</sup> *n* **1** [C] a high point; the highest level: *The price of oil reached a new high/an all-time high this week.* **2** [U] esp. *bibl* or *lit* a high place, esp. heaven (in the phrase **on high**): *The Lord looked down from on high.* | (humor) *These decisions are handed down to the workforce from on high.* **3** [C] *infml* a state of great excitement and often happiness produced by or as if by a drug: *She's on a high today.* **4** [C] a weather condition with a high-pressure area; ANTICYCLONE **5** **the high and mighty** *derog* very rich and important people, esp. the rulers of a country: *The high and mighty just don't know what it's like to have to struggle to make a living.*

-**high** see WORD FORMATION

**high a-chiev-er** /,hɪ·'tʃiːv-ər/ *n* someone whose work is usu. excellent or who usu. succeeds, esp. in school

**high-and-might-y** /,hɪ·'maɪt-ɪ/ *adj infml* too proud and certain of one's own importance; ARROGANT

**high-ball** /'haɪbɔːl/ *n* esp. *AmE* an alcoholic drink, esp. WHISKY or BRANDY mixed with water or SODA and served with ice

**high-born** /'haɪbɔːn||-bɔːrən/ *adj fml* or *lit* born into the highest social class; of noble birth

**high-boy** /'haɪbɔɪ/ *n* *AmE* for TALLBOY

**high-brow** /'haɪbraʊ/ *n* sometimes *derog* a person who is thought to have more than average knowledge of, or interest in, artistic and INTELLECTUAL matters —compare LOWBROW, MIDDLEBROW —**highbrow** *adj*

**high chair** /,hɪ·'tʃaɪ-ər/ *n* a chair with long legs at which a baby or small child can sit, esp. when eating from a table or from a special TRAY joined to the chair —see picture at CHAIR

**High Church** /,hɪ·'tʃɜːtʃ/ *adj* of the part of the Church of England which places great importance on ceremony, and is closest in its beliefs to the Roman Catholic Church. High Church services include the burning of CANDLES and sweet-smelling INCENSE. —compare LOW CHURCH —**~man** *n*

**high-class** /,hɪ·'klɑːs/ *adj* **1** of good quality; SUPERIOR **2** of high social position

**high com-mand** /,hɪ·'kɒm-ənd/ *n* [U;C] (the offices of) the top leaders and officers of a military force

**high com-mis-sion** /,hɪ·'kɒm-ɪʃən/ *n* [C+*sing./pl. v*] (often caps.) (the group of people who work in) the office (like an EMBASSY) of a high commissioner

**high com-mis-sion-er** /,hɪ·'kɒm-ɪʃən-ər/ *n* (often caps.) a person who is the chief official representative of one Commonwealth country in another: *the British High Commissioner in New Delhi* —compare AMBASSADOR, CONSUL (1)

**high court** /,hɪ·'kɔːt/ *n* **1** [C] a court which is at a higher level than ordinary courts and which can be asked to change the decision of a lower court: *a high court judge* **2** [the] (caps) also **High Court of Jus-tice** /,hɪ·'kɔːt-ɪʃ-ə-ri/ — the lower branch of the Supreme Court of England and Wales consisting of the Queen's Bench Division, the Chancery Division, and the Family Division —see also extra information on page 737

**High Court of Jus-ti-cia-ry** /,hɪ·'kɔːt-ɪʃ-ə-ri || -'kɔːrt-/ [the] the high criminal court of Scotland, dealing with murder, RAPE, and all cases involving heavy punishment —see also extra information on page 737

**high-def-i-ni-tion tel-e-vi-sion** /,hɪ·'def-ɪ-ni-ti-ən || -'kɔːrt-/ also **HDTV** *abbrev.* — *n* [U;C] (a television set which uses) a modern system of broadcasting television pictures which gives a much sharper image than previous systems



**high-er**<sup>1</sup> /'haɪə/ *adj* **1** comparative of HIGH **2** [A] more advanced, esp. in development, organization, or knowledge needed: *higher animals* | *higher nerve centres* | *higher mathematics*

**higher**<sup>2</sup> *n* the higher level of the Scottish Certificate of Education —see also SCE —compare O GRADE —see also extra information on page 408

**higher ed-u-ca-tion** /,hiːə'edʒən/ *n* [U] education at a university or college —compare ADULT EDUCATION, FURTHER EDUCATION

**higher-up** /,hiːə'ʌp/ *n* [*usu. pl.*] *infml* an important person of high rank in an organization

**high ex-plo-sive** /,hiːə'ekspləʃɪv/ *n* [C;U] a powerful explosive

**high-fa-lu-tin** /,haɪfə'lʊtɪn/ *adj infml derog* foolishly trying to appear serious or important; PRETENTIOUS: *a highfalutin manner*

**high fi-del-i-ty** /,hiːə'fɪdliːti/ also **hi-fi**— *n* [U] the ability (of TAPE RECORDERS, RECORD PLAYERS, etc.) to give out sound which represents very closely the details of the original sound before recording: *high fidelity equipment* —see also HI-FI

**high-fli-er** /,hiːə'flaɪə/ *n* an unusually clever person who has a strong desire to succeed and is regarded by others as likely to gain a high position

**high-flown** /,hiːə'flaʊn/ *adj usu. derog* (of language) important-sounding, though lacking in deep meaning: *high-flown rhetoric*

**high-fly-ing** /,hiːə'flaɪɪŋ/ *adj* **1** which flies high: *high-flying aircraft* **2** like a high-flier; AMBITIOUS

**High-gate** /'haɪgeɪt/ an area of N London which has a large burial ground (**Highgate Cemetery**) where many famous people, including Karl Marx, are buried

**high-grade** /,hiːə'ɡreɪd/ *adj* of high quality: *high-grade cloth for suits* | *high-grade oil*

**High-grove House** /,haɪgrəʊv 'haus/ a house in Gloucestershire, England, which is owned by the Prince and Princess of Wales

**high-hand-ed** /,hiːə'hændɪd/ *adj* using one's power too forcefully and without considering the wishes or feelings of other people; ARBITRARY: *high-handed treatment/attitudes* | *It was rather high-handed of him to take that decision without consulting you first.* — *~ly adv* — *~ness n* [U]

**high heels** /,hiːə'hilz/ also **heels**— *n* [P] women's shoes with high heels

**high horse** /'haɪhɔːs/ *n* on one's high horse *infml derog* behaving, esp. talking, as if one knows best, or more than others

**high in-ter-est ac-count** /,hiːə'ɪntərəstə'kaʊnt/ *n* a bank account in which money saved earns a higher rate of interest than in other savings accounts, if you keep at least a certain sum in the account

**high jinks** /'haɪdʒɪŋks/ *n* [P] *infml old-fash* wild fun of a harmless type

**high jump** /'haɪdʒmp/ *n* [*the+S;C*] **1** (a sport in which someone makes) a jump over a bar which is gradually raised higher and higher —see colour picture on page 883 **2** be for the high jump *BrE infml* to be about to be in trouble or get a serious punishment: *You'll be for the high jump when they find out you've crashed the firm's car.* — *~er n*

**high-land**<sup>1</sup> /'haɪlənd/ *n* a mountainous area

**highland**<sup>2</sup> *adj* [A] **1** of a mountainous area: *highland vegetation* **2** (*often cap.*) of the Scottish Highlands: *a Highland clan*

**Highland** a REGION of Scotland, covering a large area in the N and NW of the country and many of the inner islands

**Highland dress** /,hiːə'lənd'res/ a special kind of clothing worn by some Scottish men on special occasions. Highland dress includes a formal JACKET, a BOW TIE, a KILT with a SPOR-RAN, long socks, and a small knife kept under the fold at the top of the sock.

**high-land-er** /'haɪləndə/ *n* (*often cap.*) a person from a mountainous area, esp. in Scotland

**Highland fling** /,hiːə'flɪŋ/ *n* a Scottish country dance that is fast and full of movement, done by one person. The Highland fling is one of several Scottish dances, and is not often performed except at special EXHIBITIONS of dancing.

**Highland Games** /,hiːə'leɪnd'ɡeɪms/ also **Highland Gath-er-ing** /,hiːə'leɪnd'ɡæθərɪŋ/

'---/— a FESTIVAL with competitions in Scottish sports, dancing, and music, held every year in the Highlands. The best-known Highland Games is the one held at Braemar, though similar festivals take place in other Scottish towns, some of which are outside the Highlands. Typical sports include tossing (TOSS) the CABER.

**High-lands** /'haɪləndz/ [*the+P*] mountainous areas, esp. those in the north of Scotland —compare LOWLANDS

**Highlands and Is-lands** /,hiːə'ləndz 'aɪlənz/ [*the+P*] a general name for the N, NW, and island areas of Scotland, whose business interests are helped by the **Highlands and Islands Development Board**

**high-lev-el** /,hiːə'levəl/ *adj* [A] **1** at a high level **2** done by or including people of high rank or importance: *high-level discussions about the future of the company* **3** *tech* (of a language for computer PROGRAMS) similar to human language, rather than to machine language: *BASIC is a high-level programming language.*

**high life** /'haɪlaɪf/ *n* [U] **1** [(the)] the enjoyable life of rich and fashionable people, which includes lots of amusement, good food, etc. **2** a type of music and dance popular in W Africa

**high-light**<sup>1</sup> /'haɪlaɪt/ *n* [*often pl.*] **1** [(of)] an important, noticeable, or special part of something bigger, e.g. of a performance or sports event: *Recorded highlights of today's big football game will be shown after the news.* **2** a lighter area in the hair, often made lighter by artificial means. Highlights are often used as a way of hiding grey hairs. **3** *tech* the area on a picture or photograph where most light appears to fall

**highlight**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T] to pick out (something) as an important part; throw attention onto: *facts that highlight the need for change*

**high-light-er** /'haɪlaɪtə/ *n* a kind of pen which writes with a very bright colour which does not cover up the words underneath it, and is used to highlight words on a page

**high-ly** /'haɪli/ *adv* **1** (often before adjectives made from verbs) to a great degree; very: *highly amused* | *highly skilled* | *highly enjoyable* | *highly unlikely* **2** a very well: *highly paid* | *She speaks/thinks very highly of your work.* (=praises it/thinks it is very good) **b** in a high or important position: *highly placed government officials*

**highly-strung** /,hiːə'strʌŋd/ also **high-strung**— *adj* easily upset or excited; nervous. This word is often used to excuse a person who has strong emotional feelings about problems.

**high mass** /,hiːə'mɑːs/ *n* [C;U] (esp. in the Roman Catholic Church) a very formal MASS (=type of church service) with singing and music

**high-minded** /,hiːə'maɪndɪd/ *adj* having or showing very high esp. moral standards, perhaps too high — *~ly adv* — *~ness n* [U]

**High-ness** /'haɪnəs/ *n* (used as a title for speaking to or about certain royal persons): *His (Royal) Highness Prince Leopold* | *Thank you, Your Highness.* | *Their Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales will visit the university in March.*

**high-oc-tane** /,hiːə'ɒktəneɪ/ *adj* (of petrol) of good quality

**high-pitched** /,hiːə'pɪtʃt/ *adj* **1** (of a sound or voice) at a level close to the highest that can be heard; not low or deep: *She let out a high-pitched scream.* **2** (of a roof) sloping steeply

**high point** /'haɪpɔɪnt/ also **high spot**— *n* [(of)] the best or most important moment or event of a period or activity, esp. one that is remembered with great pleasure: *One of the high points of our holiday was the visit to the Grand Canyon.*

**high-pow-ered** /,hiːə'paʊəd/ *adj* showing great force, ability, etc.: *high-powered selling methods* | *a high-powered car* | *The new professor is very high-powered.*

**high-pres-sure**<sup>1</sup> /,hiːə'presʃə/ *adj* [A] **1** of, at, or using high pressure, esp. air pressure that is higher than usual **2** (esp. of a salesperson or method of selling) using strong and continuous argument and talk: *I was talked into buying it by a high-pressure salesman.*

**high-pressure**<sup>2</sup> /'haɪ'presʃə/ *v* [T (into)] *esp. AmE* to persuade (someone) to do or buy something by high-pressure methods

**high priest** /,hiːə'praɪst/ **high priest-ess** /,hiːə'praɪstəs/ [*fem.*]— *n* the chief



priest, e.g. in a temple: (fig.) *the high priest of modern jazz* (=the most famous and influential player)

**high-prin-ci-pled** /,hɪˈprɪnsɪpəl/ *adj* honourable; HIGH-MINDED

**high pro-file** /,hɪˈprɒfɪl/ *n* [usu. sing.] the state or quality of attracting a lot of attention to oneself or one's actions: *The company has a high profile in the area of personal computers.* — **high-profile** *adj*: *a high-profile job as the President's personal spokesman*

**high-rank-ing** /,hɪˈræŋkɪŋ/ *adj* [A] of high rank: *high-ranking government officials* | *one of the highest-ranking members of the government*

**high re-lief** /,hɪˈreɪlɪf/ *n* [U] a form of art in which figures are cut out of the stone or wooden surface of a wall so that they stand well out from the background, which has been cut away — compare BAS-RELIEF

**high-rise** /ˈhaɪˌraɪz/ *adj* [A] describing a very tall building, esp. a block of flats with more than a few floors (STOREYS). In Britain, high-rise buildings are usu. in inner city areas and are lived in by people who are not very rich, but in the US, some high-rise flats are very attractive and very expensive. — compare LOW-RISE — **high rise** *n*: *We live on the twentieth floor of a high rise.* — see picture at HOUSE

**high road** /ˈhaɪˌroʊd/ *n* 1 [(the)S] esp. BrE (often cap. as part of a name) a main road; HIGH STREET: *We got it at a shop in Kilburn High Road.* 2 [the+S+to] the easiest, best, or most direct way: *the high road to health*

**high school** /ˈhaɪˌskuːl/ *n* [C;U] 1 (in Britain) a SECONDARY SCHOOL for children, often for girls, aged between 11 and 18; used esp. in names: *Manchester High School* 2 (in the US) a school for children aged between 15 and 18 — see also extra information on page 408

**high school di-plot-ma** /,hɪˌskuːl ˈdɪpləˌmɑː/ *n* AmE a document given to those who complete the twelve years of education required in the American School system. It is necessary for all but the most unskilled jobs

**high seas** /ˈhaɪˌsiːz/ *n* [the+P] the oceans of the world which do not belong to any particular country

**high sea-son** /,hɪˌsiːzən/ *n* [(the)U] the time of year when business is most active and prices are highest: *Your ticket will cost more if you fly during (the) high season.* — compare LOW SEASON

**high se-cu-ri-ty pris-on** /,hɪˌseɪkəˈrɪti ˈprɪzən/ *n* a prison for dangerous criminals, from which it is very difficult to escape

**High Sher-iff** /ˈhaɪˌʃerɪf/ also Sheriff— *n* (in England and Wales) the chief officer of the King or Queen in a COUNTY with various mostly ceremonial duties

**high-sid-ed ve-hi-cle** /,hɪˌsaɪdɪd ˈveɪhɪkl/ *n* BrE a vehicle such as a large VAN or a bus which has high sides. Some bridges in windy places are closed to high-sided vehicles in very windy weather, because these vehicles might be in danger of being blown over.

**high-sound-ing** /,hɪˌsaʊndɪŋ/ *adj* often derog (of words, ideas, etc.) seeming important or very good but often having no meaning

**high-speed** /,hɪˌspiːd/ *adj* [A] which travels, works, etc., very fast: *a high-speed train*

**high-spir-it-ed** /,hɪˌspɪrɪtɪd/ *adj* 1 (of a person or their behaviour) full of fun; adventure-loving; LIVELY 2 (of an animal, esp. a horse, or of animal behaviour) active, esp. nervously active, and hard to control

**high spot** /ˈhaɪˌspɒt/ *n* [(of)] the best or most important part; HIGH POINT

**high street** /ˈhaɪˌstriːt/ BrE || **main street** AmE— *n* [(the)S] (often cap. as part of a name) the most important shopping and business street of a town: *Camden High Street* | *There are several banks in the high street.* — **high-street** *adj* [A]: *one of the big high-street shoe shops*

**high street bank** /,hɪˌstriːt ˈbæŋk/ *n* BrE a bank which provides services to ordinary people and small companies. Branches of high street banks, e.g. NatWest, Midlands, Barclays, can be found in most towns and cities in Britain.

**high-strung** /,hɪˌstrʌŋd/ *adj* HIGHLY-STRUNG

**high ta-ble** /,hɪˌteɪbəl/ *n* [U] (in Britain) the table at which the teachers at a college eat, which is at a level raised above that of the area where the students eat. This expression is used esp. at the universities of Oxford and Cambridge.

**high-tail** /ˈhaɪˌteɪl/ *v* **hightail** it *infml*, esp. AmE to go or leave in a great hurry: *We'd better hightail it out of here before the law shows up.*

**high tea** /ˈhaɪˌtiː/ *n* [U] BrE an early-evening meal taken in some parts of Britain instead of afternoon tea or a later dinner, esp. by children whose parents eat separately after the children are in bed

**high tech, hi-tech** /ˈhaɪˌtek/ *n* [U] 1 a style of decorating houses, offices, etc., using modern industrial building materials 2 high technology — **high tech, hi-tech** *adj*

**high tech-nol-o-gy** /ˈhaɪˌtɛknələdʒi/ *n* [U] the use of the most modern and advanced machines, processes, and methods, e.g. in business or industry

**high-ten-sion** /ˈhaɪˌtɛnʃən/ *adj* [A] carrying a powerful electrical current: *high-tension cables*

**high tide** /ˈhaɪˌtaɪd/ *n* 1 [C;U] the moment when the water is highest up the sea shore because the TIDE has come in — opposite **low tide** 2 [C usu. sing.] the highest point of success

**high time** /ˈhaɪˌtaɪm/ *n* [U] the proper time (for something that has been delayed too long): [+ (that)] *It's high time you had your hair cut; it's getting much too long.*

**high-toned** /ˈhaɪˌtəʊnd/ *adj* (seeming to be) concerned with great aims, high principles, or noble ideas

**high trea-son** /ˈhaɪˌtreɪzən/ *n* [U] the crime of putting one's country or its ruler in great danger, e.g. by planning to kill the king, giving military secrets to foreign enemies, etc.; TREASON of the very worst kind

**high wa-ter** /ˈhaɪˌwɔːtə/ *n* [U] the moment when the water in a river is at its highest point because of the TIDE — opposite **low water** — see also **come hell or high water** (HELL)

**high water mark** /ˈhaɪˌwɔːtə ˈmɑːrk/ *n* 1 a mark showing the highest point reached by a body of water, such as a river 2 the highest point of success — opposite **low water mark**

**high-way** /ˈhaɪˌweɪ/ *n* 1 [C] esp. AmE or law a broad main road used esp. by traffic going in both directions, and often leading from one town to another 2 [the+S+to] BrE the best or most direct way; HIGH ROAD (2)

**Highway Code** /ˈhaɪˌweɪ ˈkɒd/ *n* [the] the official list of rules for drivers on the road in Britain. People are tested on their knowledge of the Highway Code as part of their driving test

**high-way-man** /ˈhaɪˌweɪmən/ *n* — **men** /mən/ (in former times) a man who used to stop horsemen and carriages on the roads and rob them of their money, jewels, etc. Dick Turpin was probably the most famous highwayman in Britain. Highwaymen are thought of as holding a PISTOL and saying "stand and deliver!" — compare FOOTPAD

highwayman



**high wire** /ˈhaɪˌwaɪə/ *n* TIGHTROPE

**hi-jack** /ˈhaɪˌdʒæk/ *v* [T] 1 to take control of (esp. an aircraft) using the threat of force, usu. in order to make political demands: *They hijacked a British Airways flight and threatened to blow the plane up if their government did not release its political prisoners.* | (fig.) *Some people think the party has been hijacked by political extremists.* 2 to stop (a moving vehicle, such as a train) in order to rob it — **er** *n* — **ing** *n* [C;U]

**hijack** *n* a case of hijacking

**hike** /haɪk/ *n* 1 a long walk in the country, esp. over rough ground, usu. taken for pleasure: *to go on a hike* 2 *infml* a rise in prices, etc: *recent hikes in the cost of petrol*

**hike** *v* 1 [I] to go on a hike — compare TREK 2 [T (UP)] *infml*, esp. AmE to increase suddenly and steeply: *trying to hike rents* — compare HITCHHIKE — **hiker** *n*

**hike** sthg./sbdy. ↔ **up** *phr v infml*, esp. AmE [T] to raise or pull with a sudden movement: *He hiked his son up on his shoulders to see the marching soldiers.* | *She hiked up her skirt, and got on the horse.*

**hi-lar-i-ous** /hɪˈleəriəs/ *adj* full of or causing wild laughter: *The party got quite hilarious after they brought more wine.* | *a hilarious joke* — **ly** *adv* — **ness** *n* [U]

**hi-lar-i-ty** /hɪˈlærɪti/ *n* [U] cheerfulness, expressed in laughter; MIRTH

**hill** /hɪl/ *n* 1 a raised area of land, not as high as a mountain, and not usu. as bare or rocky: *Sheep were grazing on the side of the hill.* | *The castle stands on a hill.* | *a hill*



farmer **2 the Hill** *AmE* CAPITOL HILL **3 over the hill** *infml* no longer young

**Hill<sup>1</sup>, Benny** (1925–92) a British COMEDIAN best known for his very successful television programmes made in the 1950s and 60s which were very much liked, and also often criticized, for the large number of jokes about sex or involving young women wearing very little clothing—see colour picture on page 553

**Hill<sup>2</sup>, Joe** /dʒeɪ/ (1879–1915) an American TRADE UNION leader

**Hil-la-ry** /'hɪləri/, **Sir Ed-mund** /'edmænd/ (1919– ) a New Zealand mountain climber known for being the first to reach the top of Mount Everest in 1953. He also went to the South Pole overland, in 1958.

**hill-bil-ly** /'hɪlbɪli/ *n AmE*, often *derog* or *humor* an uneducated person from a mountain area, esp. from the Appalachian Mountains, living far from a town

**hill-ock** /'hɪlək/ *n* a little hill

**Hills-bo-rough** /'hɪlzbərə/ also **Hillsborough Di-sas-ter** /'... -sɪstə/—the death of 96 people and the INJURY of 170 which happened because of overcrowding at the Sheffield Wednesday football ground in 1989

**hill-side** /'hɪlsaɪd/ *n* the sloping side of a hill, as opposed to the top (**hilltop**)

**Hill Street Blues** /ɪˌ - 'sɪt/ an American television programme in the 1980s about a police station and the policemen who worked there

**hill-y** /'hɪli/ *adj* full of hills

**hilt** /hɪlt/ *n* **1** the handle of a sword, or of a knife which is used as a weapon—see picture at SWORD **2 (up) to the hilt** (usu. of something undesirable) completely: *She's up to the hilt in debts.* | *We're mortgaged up to the hilt.* | *I'll support you to the hilt.*

**Hil-ton** /'hɪltən/ [*the*] *tdmk* also **Hilton ho-tel** /ɪˌ - 'hɒl/—a particular one of many hotels belonging to the same group and named after the original owner. Hilton hotels are known to be very expensive and extremely comfortable: *We're staying at the Hilton.*

**Hilton Head** /ɪˌ - 'hɒl/ an island off the coast of South Carolina, US, which is popular, esp. with wealthy tourists

**him** /ɪm; *strong him*/ *pron* (object form of **he**): *The dog never comes in when I call him.* | *Which is the boy you were talking about? Is that him?* | *Have you given him the book?* | *I carried his case for him.* | *She wants to marry him, and him at least 75 years old!*—see ME (USAGE)

**Him-a-lay-as** /hɪməˈleɪəz/ a long mountain range in S Asia which includes the world's highest mountain, Mount Everest, and others which only very experienced climbers try to climb

**Him-mler** /'hɪmlər/, **Hein-rich** /'haɪnrɪk, -rɪx/ (1900–45) a German Nazi leader who controlled the SS and the Gestapo during the Second World War

**him-self** /ɪm'self; *strong him-*/ *pron* **1 a** (reflexive form of **he**): *Did he hurt himself when he fell?* | *The old man was talking to himself.* **b** (with general meaning): *Everyone should be able to defend himself.* **2** (strong form of **he**): *I want to speak to the director himself, not his secretary.* | *The President himself did it.* | *He did it himself.* | *The Minister of Sport, himself a keen football supporter, has been very critical of the behaviour of football crowds.* **3** *infml* (in) his usual state of mind or body: *I don't think he's very well — he doesn't seem himself today|he hasn't been himself lately.* **4** (all) by himself alone, without help: *The baby can walk by himself now.* | *He lives all by himself in the country.* **5 to himself** for his own private use: *a bedroom to himself*—see YOURSELF (USAGE)

**hind<sup>1</sup>** /haɪnd/ *n* **hinds** or **hind** a female deer, esp. of the RED DEER family—compare HART

**hind<sup>2</sup>** *adj* [A] (usu. of animals' legs) at the back or forming the back part: *The dog stood up on its hind legs.*

**Hin-de-mith** /'hɪndəmt/, **Paul** (1895–1963) a German COMPOSER and writer on music

**hin-der** /'hɪndə/ *v* [T (from)] to stop or delay the advance or development of (a person or activity); prevent or get in the way of; OBSTRUCT: *This unfortunate incident may hinder the progress of the peace talks.*

**Hin-di** /'hɪndi/ a language spoken in N central India. Hindi is one of the two official languages of India and is closely related to Urdu.

**Hind-ley** /'hɪndli/, **My-ra** /'maɪrə/ a child murderer who has been in prison in Britain for many years. Her name is usu. connected with that of Ian Brady, another child murderer.

**hind-most** /'haɪndməʊst/ *adj* *old use* furthest behind

**hind-quar-ters** /'haɪnd,kwɔːtəz||-kwɔːrtəz/ *n* [P] the back part of an animal, including the legs—compare HAUNCH and see picture at HORSE

**hin-drance** /'hɪndrəns/ *n* [(to)] **1** [U] the act of hindering: *This delay has caused some hindrance to my plans.* **2** [C] someone or something that hinders: *He offered to help me with the cleaning, but he was more of a hindrance than a help.* | *Lack of adequate funding is a serious hindrance to the progress of our research.*

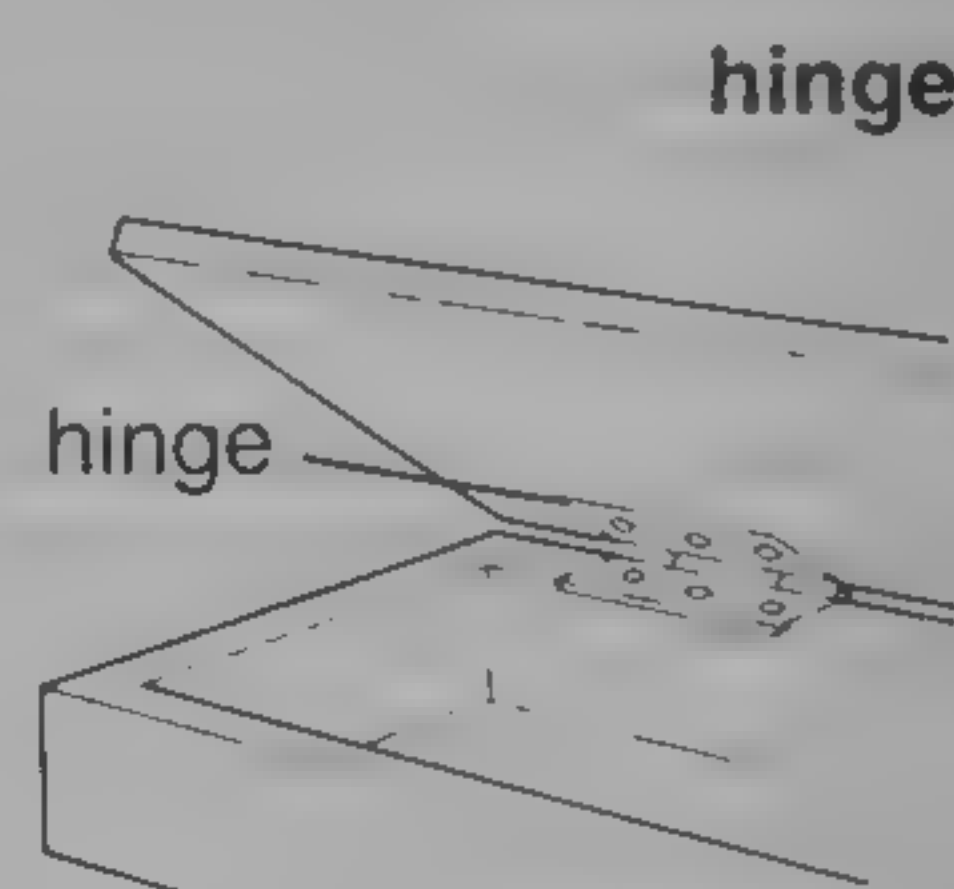
**hind-sight** /'haɪndsəɪt/ *n* [U] understanding the nature of or reasons for an event after it has actually happened: *It's easy to say now what we should have done then — with the wisdom/benefit of hindsight!* (=with the advantage of knowing what has now actually happened)—compare FORESIGHT

**Hin-du** /'hɪnduː, hɪn'duː/ *n* **Hindus** a person whose religion is Hinduism—**Hindu** *adj*

**Hin-du-is-m** /'hɪndu-ɪzəm/ *n* [U] the chief religion of India which includes belief in DESTINY and REINCARNATION

**Hines** /haɪnz/, **Earl** (1903–83) an American JAZZ musician, piano player, and bandleader

**hinge<sup>1</sup>** /hɪndʒ/ *n* a metal part which joins two objects together and allows the first to swing around the second, such as one joining a door or gate to a post, or a lid to a box: *The gate is creaking — I think the hinges need oiling.*—see picture at GLASSES



**hinge<sup>2</sup>** *v* [T often *pass.*] to fix (something) on hinges: *The cupboard door is hinged on the right, so it opens on the left.*

**hinge on/upon** sthg./sbdy. *phr v* [T not in progressive forms] to depend on; have as a necessary condition: *The success of the operation hinges on the support we get from our allies.* [+wh-] *Everything hinges on where we go next.*

**hint<sup>1</sup>** /hɪnt/ *n* **1** a statement or action that gives a small or indirect suggestion: *She dropped (=made) a few hints about her birthday, to make sure that no one would forget it.* | *I kept looking at my watch, but she can't take a hint (=understand what is meant by it), and it was after midnight before she left.* | *a broad hint* (=a very clear one) **2** [(of)] a small sign or small amount: *There's a hint of summer in the air, although it's only May.* | *a spaghetti sauce with a hint of garlic* [+ (that)] *He gave no hint (=did not show) that he was in pain.* **3** [often *pl.*] useful advice: *helpful hints for people travelling to China*

**hint<sup>2</sup>** *v* [I (at); T+ (that); obj] to suggest or mention indirectly; INTIMATE: *The prime minister has hinted at the possibility of an early election.* | *I hinted (to him) that I was dissatisfied with his work.*

**hin-ter-land** /'hɪntələnd||-ər-/ *n* [*the*+S] the inner part of a country, beyond the coast or the banks of an important river

**hip<sup>1</sup>** /hɪp/ *n* the fleshy part of either side of the human body above the legs: *Women have rounder hips than men.* | *He stood with his hands on his hips.*

**hip<sup>2</sup>** also **rose hip**— *n* [*usu. pl.*] the red fruit of some kinds of rose bush

**hip<sup>3</sup>** *interj* **hip, hip, hooray!** (a shout or cheer of approval)

**hip<sup>4</sup>** *adj* -pp- [(to)] *sl* of, knowing about, or interested in the latest fashions in behaviour, music, amusements, etc.: *hip to everything that's happening*

**hip-bath** /'hɪpbɑːθ||-bæθ/ *n* a bath in which one can sit but not lie. Hipbaths are not common in Britain or the US

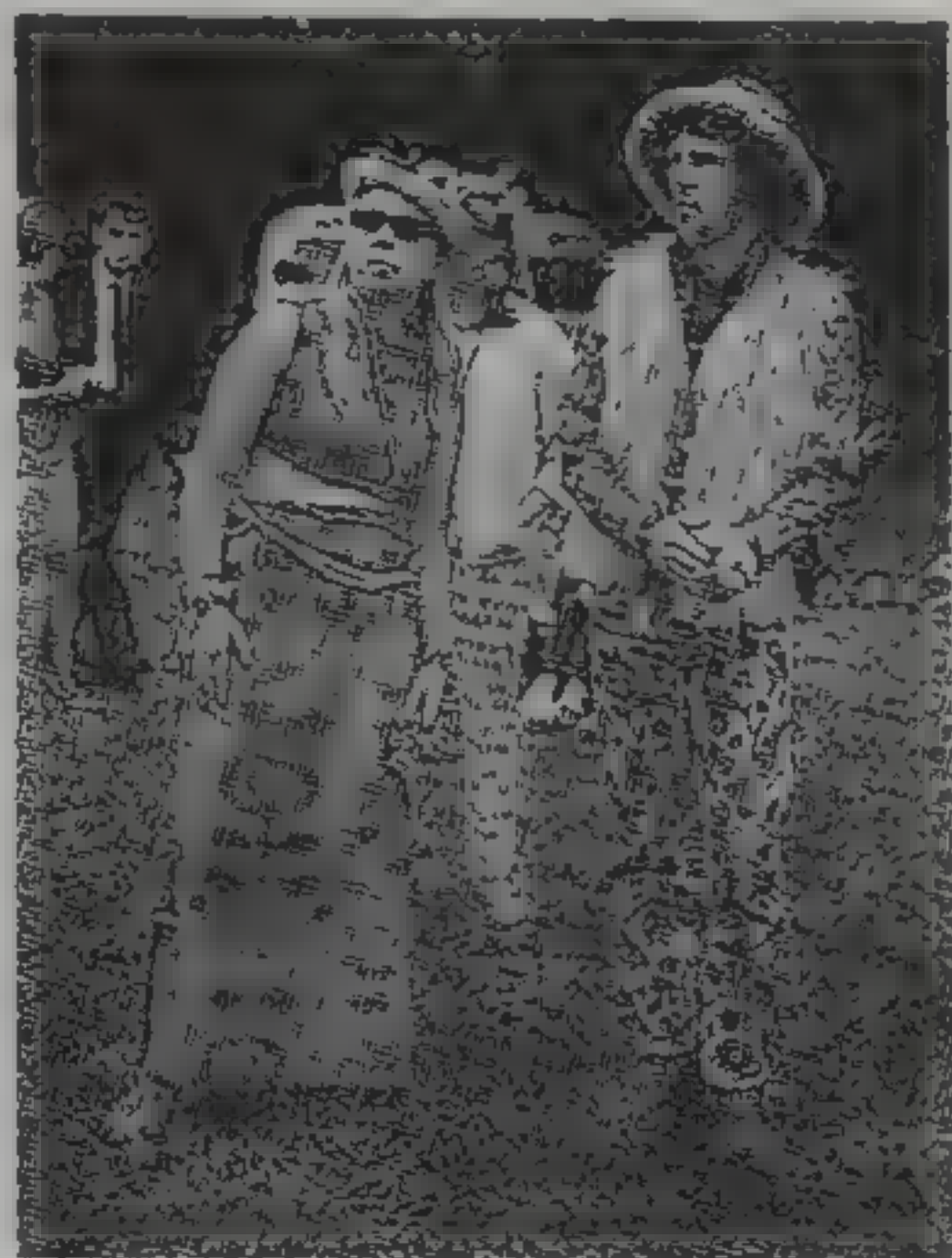
**hip flask** /ɪˌ - / *n* a small often curved FLASK made to fit into a hip pocket, and used esp. for carrying strong alcoholic drinks—see picture at FLASK

**hip hop** /ɪˌ - / *n* [U] a kind of popular music with a regular heavy beat and special musical effects as a background to spoken words. Hip hop is part of a youth CULTURE which comes from the US and includes GRAFFITI ART and BREAKDANCE.

**hip-hug-gers** /'hɪphʌgəz||-ərz/ *n* [P] *AmE* for HIPSTERS



**hip-pie, hippy** /'hipi/ *n* (esp. in the 1960s and 1970s) a person who opposes, or is thought to oppose, the accepted standards of ordinary society, esp. when showing this by dressing in unusual clothes, having long hair (both men and women), living in groups together, and (sometimes) taking drugs for pleasure. Hippies believed in peace, and one of their sayings was "make love, not war". —see also FLOWER PEOPLE



hippies

**hip pock-et** /, · ' · / *n* a pocket on the HIP<sup>1</sup>, or at the back, of a pair of trousers or of a skirt

**Hip-poc-ra-tes** /hɪ'pɒkrətiːz/ -'pɑː-/ (460?–?377 BC) a Greek doctor who is considered to be the man who began the study of medicine

**Hip-po-crat-ic oath** /,hipəkrætɪk 'əʊθ/ [the] the promise made by doctors to try to save life and to follow the standards set for the medical profession (named after Hippocrates)

**Hip-po-drome** /'hipədrəʊm/ [the] a typical name given to a theatre: *the Birmingham Hippodrome*

hippopotamus



**hip-po-pot-a-mus** /,hipə'pɒtəməs/ -'pɑː-/ also **hip-po** /'hipəʊ/ *infml*— *n* -muses or -mi /maɪ/ a large African animal with a large head and wide mouth, large body, and thick hairless dark grey skin, which lives near and in water

**hip-py** /'hipi/ *n* a HIPPIE

**hip-sters** /'hipstəz/ -ərz/ *BrE* || **hiphuggers** *AmE*— *n* [P] trousers that fit up to the HIPS, not the waist. Hipsters were popular esp. in the 1960s.

**hire**<sup>1</sup> /haɪə/ *v* [T] 1 *BrE* || **rent** *AmE* to get the use of (something) for a special occasion or a limited time on payment of a sum of money: *We hired a car for a week when we were in Italy.* 2 *a* to employ (someone) for a short time or for a particular purpose: *Let's hire a plumber.* | *a hired killer* *b* esp. *AmE* to employ or appoint to a job

▷ **USAGE** 1 In *BrE* you **hire** things for just a short time and the owner **hires** them out. *Let's hire a car for the weekend.* | *I'll have to hire a suit for the wedding.* You **rent** things for a longer period: *Is that your own television or do you rent it?* You **rent** a house or a flat and the owner lets it (out). But in *AmE* you **rent** all of these things, and the owner **rents** them out. 2 In *AmE* you **hire** people (=employ them), but in *BrE* you only **hire** people for a particular purpose, not for a long period; otherwise they are **appointed**: *We hired an advertising company to help sell our new product.* | *We're going to appoint a new history teacher.* 3 In *BrE* and *AmE* things like buses, ships, and planes are **chartered** for special use by a group or organization. ◁

**hire** sthg./sbdy. ↔ **out** || **rent out** *AmE* *phr v* [T (to)] 1 to give the use of (something) for payment: *Why don't you hire out your car to your neighbours while you're away, and make some money?* 2 to give the use of (one-self or one's services) for payment: *farm labourers who hire themselves out for the harvest*

**hire**<sup>2</sup> *n* [U] 1 *BrE* the act of hiring or state of being hired: *Boats for hire.* | *to pay for the hire of a room* | *a car hire company* 2 payment for this: *to work for hire*

**hire-ling** /'haɪəlɪŋ/ -'haɪə-/ *n* *derog* a person whose services may be hired by anyone willing to pay: *hiring politicians*

**hire pur-chase** /, · ' · / *BrE* || **installment plan** *AmE*— *n*

[U] a system of payment for goods by which one pays small sums of money regularly after receiving the goods (usually paying more than the original price in total): *to get a new fridge on hire purchase*

**Hi-ro-hi-to** /,hɪə'raʊ'hɪxtəʊ/ (1901–89) the EMPEROR of Japan from 1926 to 1989

**Hi-rosh-i-ma** /hɪ'rɒʃɪmə/ -'hɪrəʊ'fɪzmə/ a city in Japan. It was destroyed in 1945 when an American ATOMIC bomb was dropped on it. A large number of people were killed in the attack. It is now a large industrialized city again.

**Hirs-horn** /'hɜːf-hɔːn/ -'hɜːrf-hɔːrn/ the Hirshhorn MUSEUM and Sculpture Garden; a museum of MODERN ART in Washington, DC, part of the SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION, given by J H Hirshorn in 1966

**hir-sute** /'hɜːsjuːt, hɜː'sjuːt/ -'hɜːrsuːt, hɜː'r'suːt/ *adj* 1 *fml* or *tech* hairy 2 *fml* or *humor* with untidy hair on the face; with the beard and hair of the head uncut

**his**<sup>1</sup> /ɪz; strong hɪz/ *determiner* (possessive form of HE) 1 of or belonging to him: *He lost his keys.* | *John's away on his honeymoon.* | *It was his first visit to England.* 2 (with general meaning): *Everyone must do his best.* —compare THEIR (2)

**his**<sup>2</sup> /hɪz/ *pron* (possessive form of HE) 1 that/those belonging to him: *Which coat is John's? Is this one his?* | *His is/are on the table.* | *That fool of a brother of his!* 2 (with general meaning): *Everyone wants only what is his by right.* —compare THEIRS (2)

**his 'n' hers** also **his and hers** /, · ' · / *adj* [A] (of a pair of things) matching, but one intended for use by the man, and one by the woman, of a (usu. married) COUPLE<sup>1</sup> (2): *They've even got his 'n' hers monogrammed towels in the bathroom.*

**Hi-span-ic** /hɪ'spæɪnɪk/ *adj* of Spanish-speaking or Portuguese-speaking countries. In the US, Hispanic is usu. used to talk about people from Latin America (=all countries south of the US). —Hispanic *n*

**His-pan-i-o-la** /,hɪspæni'əʊlə/ -pən'jəʊlə/ an island in the Caribbean, formerly called Santo Domingo and now divided into the countries of Haiti and the Dominican Republic

**hiss** /hɪs/ *v* 1 [I] to make a sound like a continuous "s": *The cat hissed at the dog.* | *The hot iron hissed as it pressed the wet cloth.* | *Gas escaped with a hissing noise from the broken pipe.* 2 [T] to say in a sharp whisper: *The boy hissed a warning to be quiet.* 3 [T] to hiss at in order to show disapproval and dislike: *The crowd hissed the speaker when he said taxes should be increased.* | *She was hissed off the stage.* (=made to leave by people hissing at her) —hiss *n*: *The snake gave an angry hiss.*

**Hiss, Al-ger** /'ældʒə/ (1904– ) an American government official sent to prison for five years for spying (SPY<sup>2</sup> (1)) for the Communists. Many people in the US believe he was not guilty.

**hist** /hɪst/ *interj* *old use* (a sound used for getting attention or asking for silence)

**his-ta-mine** /'hɪstəmiːn/ *n* [U] a chemical compound which can increase the flow of blood, either when used as a drug or when produced as a natural substance in the body —see also ANTIHISTAMINE

**his-to-gram** /'hɪstəgræm/ *n* a BAR CHART

**his-tol-o-gy** /hɪ'stɒlədʒi/ -'stɑː-/ *n* [U] the study of the cells of the body

**his-to-ri-an** /hɪ'stɔːriən/ *n* a person who studies history and/or writes about it

**his-tor-ic** /hɪ'stɒrɪk/ -'stɔː-, -'stɑː-/ *adj* 1 important in history; having or likely to have an influence on history: *a historic battle* | *a historic meeting between two great leaders* | *historic buildings* —see HISTORY (USAGE) 2 of the times whose history has been recorded —compare PREHISTORIC

**his-tor-i-cal** /hɪ'stɒrɪkəl/ -'stɔː-, -'stɑː-/ *adj* 1 connected with history as a study: *historical research* | *a historical society* 2 based on or representing events in the past: *a historical play/novel* —see HISTORY (USAGE) — ~ly /kli/ *adv*

**historical nov-el** /, · ... ' · / *n* a book which tells a story that is not true (NOVEL) but which happens in a definite time in the past and which mentions real people or events from that time



**historic pres-ent** /ˌhɪst.ər.ɪ.ə/ also **historical pres-ent** /ˌhɪst.ər.ɪ.ə/ — *n* [the+S] the present tense as used in many languages to describe events which happened in the past, when the teller wants to make them sound more real

**his-to-ry** /ˈhɪst.ər.i/ *n* 1 [U] (the study of) events in the past, such as those of a nation, arranged in order from earlier to later times, esp. events concerning the rulers and government of a country, social and trade conditions, etc.: *a history lesson at school* | *She has a degree in European history.* 2 [S;U (of)] (the study of) the development of something during the period in which it has existed: *the history of the English language* | *The English language has an interesting history.* | *The worst disaster in the history of space travel.* 3 [C (of)] a (written) account of past events, and developments, esp. in a particular subject, period, or place: *a short history of the last war* 4 [C (of)] a record of what has happened to or been done by someone in their life, esp. with regard to illness, social difficulties, criminal activity, etc.: *She has a history of back trouble.* (=she has often suffered from it in the past) | *The defendant had a history of violent assaults against women.* —see also CASE HISTORY 5 [U] a story or course of events that is already well known: *He met her at a dance, they fell in love — and the rest is history.* 6 [C] a long story including details of many events: *She told me her whole life history.* 7 **make history** to do or be concerned in something important which will be recorded and remembered: *Neil Armstrong made history when he stepped on the moon.* | *He made legal history when he won the case.* 8 **past/ancient history** what may have been true in the past, but is no longer important: *She loved me once, but that's all ancient history now.* 9 **history is bunk** =history is nonsense; a phrase used by Henry Ford, the American industrialist —see also NATURAL HISTORY

► **USAGE** 1 Compare **story** and **history**. A **story** [C] tells of a number of connected events which may or may not really have happened: *She told the children a story.* **History** [U] is the real events of the past: *We studied history at school.* 2 Compare **historic** and **historical**. **Historical** characters and events are those which really existed or happened in the past. **Historic** places or events are those which are thought to be very important in history. Thus the Battle of Hastings (1066) was a **historical** event (it really happened) and also a **historic** event (it had an important influence on English history).◀

**his-tri-on-ic** /ˌhɪstriˈɒnɪk/ — *adj* 1 *derog* behaving or done in a too theatrical way, esp. in showing feelings that are insincere or pretended 2 *rare* concerning the theatre or acting — **ally** /kli/ *adv*

**his-tri-on-ics** /ˌhɪstriˈɒnɪks/ — *n* [P] behaviour which is like a theatrical performance, showing strong but insincere feelings

**hit** /hɪt/ *v* **hit, hitting** [T] 1 to bring the hand, or something held in the hand, forcefully against (a person or thing); strike: *He hit me in the stomach.* | *She hit the tennis ball over the net.* —compare KICK<sup>1</sup> (1); see STRIKE (USAGE) 2 **a** to come against with force: *The ball hit the window.* | *The car hit the wall.* | *The bullet hit him in the chest.* **b** to cause (esp. a part of the body) to do this by accident or on purpose: *She fell down and hit her head.* | *I hit my knee on/against the chair.* 3 *infml* to arrive at; reach: *We hit the main road two miles further on.* | (esp. AmE) *We'll look for work as soon as we hit town.* | *I hit a difficult point in my work, and decided it was time for a cup of tea.* | *The singer hit a high note at the end of the song.* | *The dollar hit an all-time low* (=reached its lowest point ever) *on the money markets today.* | *A cool drink really hits the spot* (=is just what is needed) *on a summer's day.* 4 to have a bad effect on: *The increase in food prices hits everyone's pocket.* (=means they have less money) | *The company has been badly hit/hard hit by the rise in interest rates.* 5 to get or make by hitting, in a ball game: *The batsman hit three runs.* | *The batter hit a home run.* 6 *sl, esp. AmE* to attack or kill 7 **hit it off (with)** to have a good relationship (with); become good friends 8 **hit someone where it hurts (most)** to attack someone through their weaknesses or the things they feel most strongly about 9 **hit the bottle** *infml* to (start to) drink too much alcohol 10 **hit the deck** *infml* to lie down suddenly: *"It's a bomb!" he shouted, and everyone hit the deck.* 11 **hit the hay** also **hit the sack** — *sl* to go to bed 12 **hit**

**the headlines** to get into the news, esp. by being important enough to appear in the HEADLINES on the front page of a newspaper or on radio or television news 13 **hit the jackpot** *infml* to have a big success 14 **hit the nail on the head** to be exactly right in words or action 15 **hit the road** *infml* to start on a journey; leave 16 **hit the roof** also **go through the roof, hit the ceiling** — *infml* to become very angry

**hit back** *phr v* [I (at)] to reply forcefully to an attack on oneself: *The prime minister has hit back angrily at these criticisms.*

**hit on/upon** sthg. *phr v* [T] to find by lucky chance or have a good idea about: *I hope that someone will hit on a solution to our problem.*

**hit out at** sbdy./sthg. *phr v* [T] 1 also **hit out against** — express strong, esp. public, disapproval of; CONDEMN: *The bishop has hit out at what he describes as an "immoral" defence policy.* 2 to (try to) hit: *He hit out at me without thinking.*

**hit** sbdy. **up for** sthg. *phr v* [T] AmE, *sl* to ask (someone) for (something): *Can I hit you up for some cigarettes?*

**hit**<sup>2</sup> *n* 1 a blow, esp. with the hand or something held in the hand: *an unfair hit, below the belt* 2 a shot, movement, etc. that brings one thing against another with force: *I scored a direct hit with my first shot.* 3 something, such as a musical or theatrical performance, which is successful: *The record was a big hit and sold a million copies.* | *a Broadway hit* 4 [(at)] a remark which causes the desired effect, esp. if unpleasant: *That joke was a nasty hit at me.* 5 *sl, AmE* an act of breathing in the smoke of CANNABIS 6 *sl, esp. AmE* a murder 7 **make a hit (with)** to be successful (with): *You've really made a hit with her.*

**hit-and-miss** /ˌhɪt.ən.dɪs/ *adj* HIT-OR-MISS

**hit-and-run** /ˌhɪt.ən.rʌn/ *adj* [A] 1 **a** (of a road accident) of a type in which the guilty driver does not stop to help **b** (of a military attack) of a type in which the attackers arrive suddenly and unexpectedly, and leave as soon as possible 2 (of a person) who causes a hit-and-run accident: *a hit-and-run driver*

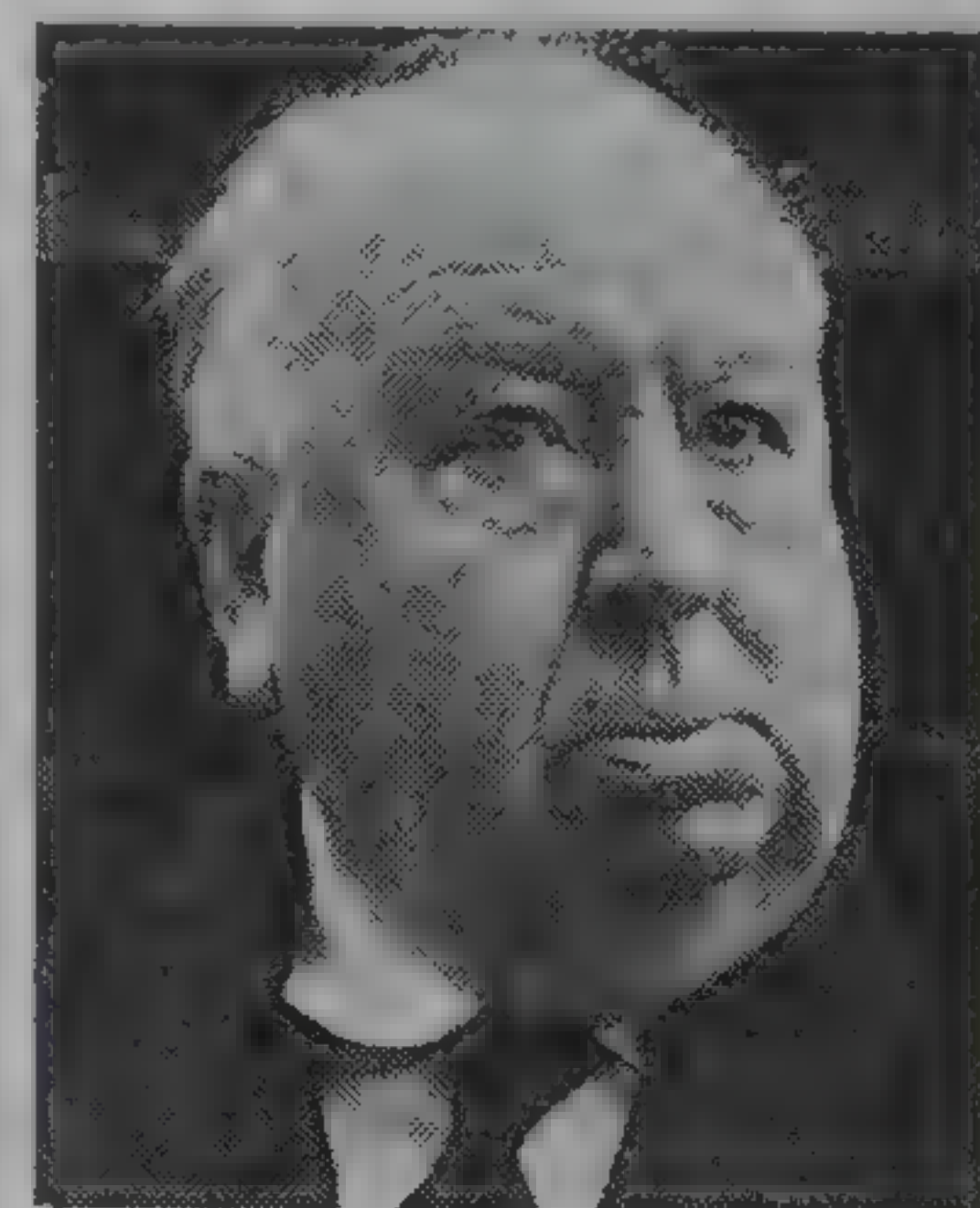
**hitch**<sup>1</sup> /hɪtʃ/ *v* 1 [T+obj+adv/prep] to fasten by hooking a rope or metal part over another object: *He hitched the horse's rope over the pole.* | *Another railway carriage has been hitched on.* 2 [I;T] *infml* to (try to) get (a ride in someone else's car) as a way of travelling; hitchhike: *They hitched across Europe.* | *We hitched a ride/a lift in a truck.* —compare THUMB<sup>2</sup> 3 **get hitched** *infml* to get married

**hitch** sthg. ↔ **up** *phr v* [T] 1 to pull upwards into the proper position: *John hitched up his trousers.* 2 to fasten to something by hitching: *We hitched up the horses (to the cart).*

**hitch**<sup>2</sup> *n* 1 a difficulty which delays something for a while: *a slight hitch* | *A technical hitch prevented the book from coming out on time.* | *The royal visit went off without a hitch.* (=was a complete success) 2 a short sudden push or pull (up); TUG: *He gave his sock a hitch (up) when he felt it slipping down.* 3 a knot used by sailors

**Hitch-cock** /ˈhɪtʃkɒk/ — *ka:k/*, **Sir Al-fred** /ˈælfred/ (1899–1980) a British filmmaker whose films are known for the terror experienced by people watching them. Two famous Hitchcock films are *The Thirty-nine Steps* and *Psycho*. —see picture on page 685. Hitchcock's face was familiar to film-goers, because he made small, quick appearances in his own films.

Alfred Hitchcock



**hitch-hike** /ˈhɪtʃhaɪk/ *v* [I] to travel by getting rides in other people's cars, usu. by standing at the side of the road and signalling to drivers. —**hiker** *n*

► **CULTURAL NOTE** Hitchhiking is less common in Britain and the US than it used to be because there have been several cases in which either hitchhikers or drivers have been attacked, so many people feel that it is unsafe to hitchhike or to give a ride to a hitchhiker. —compare HIKE<sup>2</sup> ◀

**hi-tech** /ˌhaɪˈtek/ *adj, n* [U] HIGH TECH



**hith-er** /'hiðə/ *adv* **1** *old use* to this place; here **2** *hither and thither* in all directions

**hith-er-to** /,hiðə'tu:ə/ *adv fml* until this/that time; up until now

**Hit-ler** /'hitlə/, **Ad-olf** /'ædɒlf/ *'eɪdɑ:l/* (1889–1945) the leader of the German Nazi party, born in Austria. He became CHANCELLOR of Germany in 1933. Under his control, Germany invaded (INVADE) several other European countries, which led to the start of the Second World War in 1939. He wanted to create a pure Germanic race, and many people esp. Jews and Communists who did not fit in with this idea were put in prison or killed. Hitler killed himself in 1945, just before Germany's DEFEAT in the war. His name is now often used when talking about someone who is a RACIST, or someone who allows no opposition to their power: *an opposition figure who was forced to flee Hitler's Germany* | *He is a ruthless leader, and has been described as a new Hitler.*

**Hitler Youth** /,ɪtə 'ju:θ/ *n* an organization set up by Adolf Hitler in 1933 to train German boys in the principles of Nazism

**hit list** /'hɪt lɪst/ *n infml* a list of people or organizations against whom some (bad) action is planned: *The unions claimed that the company had a hit list of factories which it intended to close.*

**hit man** /'hɪt mæn/ *n infml, esp. AmE* a criminal who is employed to kill someone

**hit-or-miss** /'hɪt ɔr mɪs/ *adj* depending on chance; not planned carefully

**hit pa-rade** /'hɪt pə'reɪd/ *n old-fash* a list of popular records (of songs) showing which ones have sold most. The ten most popular records are now called "the top ten".

**HIV** /'eɪtʃ aɪ 'vi:/ *n [U]* a type of VIRUS that enters the body through the bloodstream and can cause AIDS: *She has been diagnosed HIV positive* (=having the virus present in the body). —see also AIDS

**hive**<sup>1</sup> /haɪv/ *n* **1** a also **beehive**— a place where bees are kept, like a small hut or box **b** [+sing./pl. v] the group of bees who live there together **2** a crowded busy place (esp. in the phrases a **hive of industry/activity**): *The newspaper office was a real hive of industry.*

**hive**<sup>2</sup> *v*

**hive off** *phr v* **1** [T] (**hive** sthg. ↔ **off**) (esp. in business) to separate from a larger group or organization: *The government is planning to hive off the more profitable sections of the national car company by selling them on the open market.* **2** [I] *infml, esp. BrE* to disappear or go away without warning: *Where's Jim? I suppose he's hived off again.*

**hives** /haɪvz/ *n [P;U]* a skin disease in which the skin is red and painful, usu. a reaction to something physical or emotional: *I break out in hives whenever I eat seafood.*

**Hiz-bol-lah** /,hɪzbʊ'lɑ:/ see HEZBOLLAH

**h'm** also **hmm** /m, hm/ *interj* (a sound made with the lips closed to express doubt, pausing, disagreement, or dissatisfaction)

**HM** /'eɪtʃ 'em/ *BrE* His/Her Majesty; the official way to talk about the Queen is to call her **Her Majesty** or **Her Majesty the Queen**. The Queen Mother is called **Her Majesty the Queen Mother**.

**HMI** /'eɪtʃ em 'aɪ/ *n* Her/His Majesty's Inspector; a British government official who examines the working of schools

**HMO** /'eɪtʃ em 'əʊ/ *n abbrev. for:* HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATION

**HMS** /'eɪtʃ em es/ *n* His/Her Majesty's Ship; a title for a ship in the British Navy and for some land-based stations: *HMS Belfast*

**HMSO** /'eɪtʃ em es 'əʊ/ His/Her Majesty's Stationery Office; a government organization which prints and publishes (PUBLISH) government papers, documents, and books —compare GPO

the dog symbol used by HMV records



**HMV** /'eɪtʃ em 'vi:/ the trademark, originally of a British company which produces recordings of music etc. The letters "HMV" stand for "His Master's Voice", and the company's advertisement shows a small dog listening to a record.

**ho** /həʊ/ *interj usu. lit* (used to express surprise or draw attention): *Land ho!*

**hoar** /hɔ:/ *adj* HOARY

**hoard**<sup>1</sup> /hɔ:d/ *n [(of)]* a (secret) store, esp. of something valuable to the owner: *He kept a little hoard of chocolates in his top drawer.*

**hoard**<sup>2</sup> *v* **1** [I;T] to store secretly, esp. more than is needed or allowed: *After the war, they were shot for hoarding (food).* **2** [T (UP)] to save in large amounts for future use: *The squirrel hoards up nuts for the winter.* — ~er

**hoard-ing** /'hɔ:dɪŋ/ *n BrE* **1** a high fence round a piece of land, esp. when building work is going on **2** also **billboard** *AmE*— a high fence or board on which large advertisements are stuck

**hoar-frost** /'hɔ:frɒst/ *usu. frost* *AmE*— *n [U]* white frozen drops of water, esp. those seen on grass and plants after a cold night

**hoarse** /hɔ:s/ *adj* **1** (of a voice) rough-sounding, as though the surface of the throat is rougher than usual, e.g. when the speaker has a sore throat —compare HUSKY<sup>1</sup> **2** (of a person) having a hoarse voice: *We shouted ourselves hoarse* (=shouted until we were hoarse) *at the football match.* — ~ly *adv* — ~ness *n [U]*

**hoar-y** /'hɔ:ri/ also **hoar** *lit— adj* **1** (of hair) grey or white with age: (fig.) *a hoary old joke that we'd all heard many times before* **2** (of people) having grey or white hair in old age — ~iness *n [U]*

**hoax**<sup>1</sup> /həʊks/ *n* a trick, esp. one which makes someone believe something that is not true, and take action based on that belief: *The telephone caller said there was a bomb in the hotel, but it later turned out to be a hoax.* | *a bomb hoax*

**hoax**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T] to play a trick on (someone) — ~er *n*

**hoax call** /'hɔ:kəl/ *n* a telephone call to give false information, esp. to say that a bomb is in a particular place when it is not — ~er *n*

**hob** /hɒb/ *n BrE* **1** the flat top of a gas or electric cooker, on which pans are placed **2** (esp. in former times) a metal shelf beside an open fire where food and water could be cooked or warmed

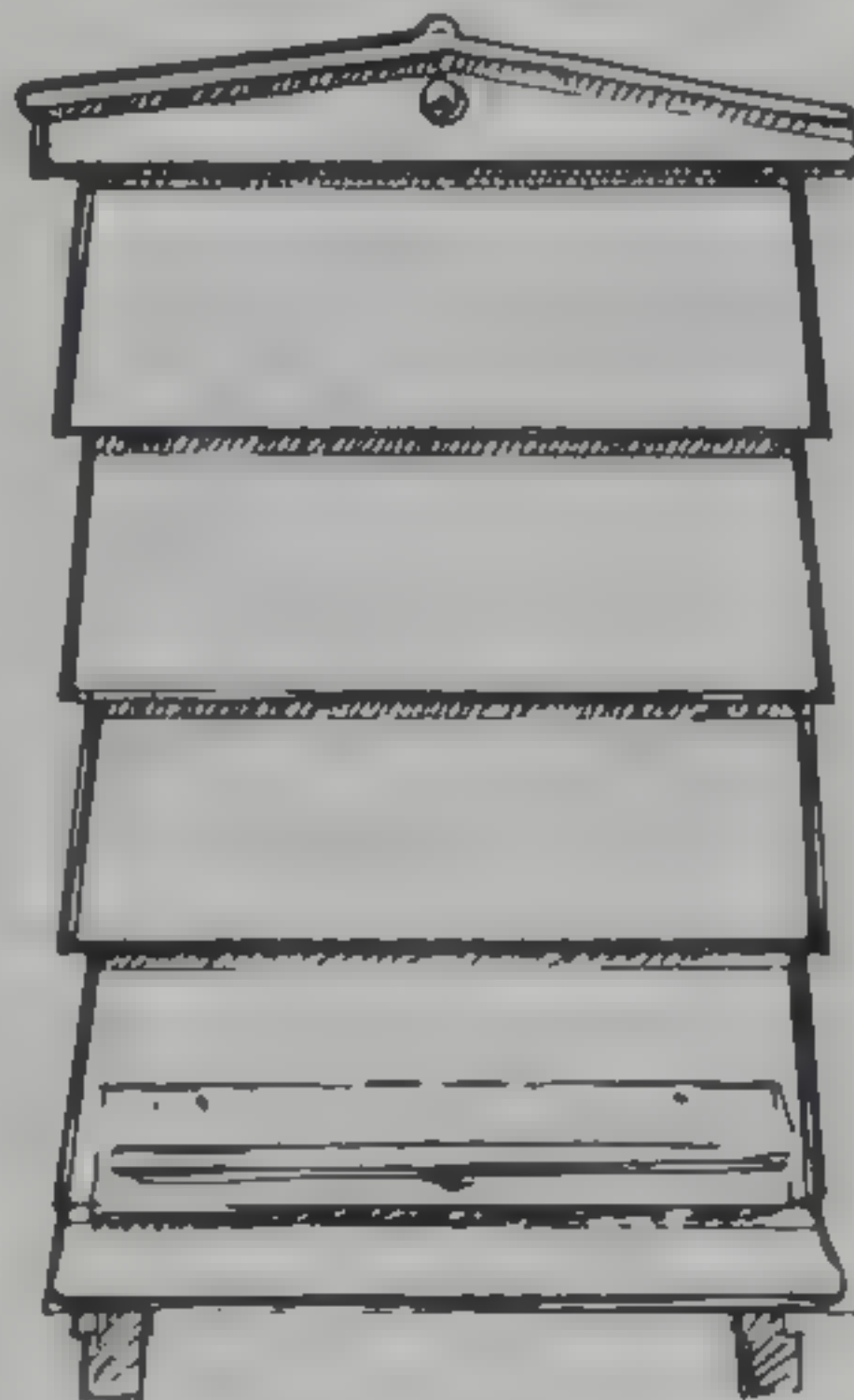
**Hobbes** /hɒbz/ *Thomas* (1588–1679) an English PHILOSOPHER best known for his book *Leviathan*, in which he argues that man is selfish and best governed by a single powerful authority

**hob-bit**, **Hobbit** /'hɒbɪt/ *n* one of many similar creatures which appear in books by J R R Tolkien. Hobbits are said to look like humans but are much smaller and live in holes in the ground. —see also LORD OF THE RINGS

**hob-ble** /'hɒbəl/ *v* **1** [I] to walk in an awkward way and with difficulty, esp. as a result of damage to the legs or feet: *I hurt my foot, and had to hobble home.* **2** [T] to fasten together two legs of (esp. a horse): *The horse has been hobbled so that he can't run away.*

**hob-ble-de-hoy** /'hɒbəldiəʊ/ *n* old use an awkward or rude young person, esp. a young man

**hob-by** /'hɒbi/ *n* an activity which one enjoys doing



hive



in one's free time: *One of her hobbies is collecting stamps.* —see RECREATION (USAGE)

**hob-by-horse** /'hɒbiːhɔːs/ || 'hɑːbiːhɔːrs/ *n* 1 a child's toy like a horse's head on a stick, which the child pretends to ride on 2 a fixed idea to which a person keeps returning, esp. in conversation: *Of course, as soon as we mentioned the strike, he got on his hobbyhorse and started criticizing the unions.*

**hob-gob-lin** /hɒb'gɒblɪn, 'hɒbgɒb- || 'hɑːbgɑːb-/ *n* a GOBLIN that plays tricks on people

**hob-nail** /'hɒbneɪl || 'hɑːb-/ *n* a large nail with a big head used to make heavy shoes and boots stronger underneath (esp. in the phrase **hobnail boots**) — ~ed *adj*

**hob-nob** /'hɒbnɒb || 'hɑːbnɑːb/ *v* -bb- [I (with)] sometimes *derog* to have a (pleasant) social relationship, often with someone in a higher social position: *I've been hobnobbing with the directors at the office party.*

**ho-bo** /'həʊbəʊ/ *n* **hoboes** or **hobos** *AmE infml* a person who has no regular work or home; TRAMP<sup>2</sup> (1)

**Hobson's choice** /,hɒbsən z 'tʃɔɪs || 'hɑːb-/ *n* [U] lack of choice; a situation in which there is only one thing that one can choose, only one course of action that one can take, etc. (from a hirer of horses called Hobson who did not give customers any choice)

**Ho Chi Minh City** /,həʊ tʃiː mɪn 'sɪti/ a city in Vietnam, formerly known as **Saigon** and capital of South Vietnam

**hock**<sup>1</sup> /hɒk || 'hɑːk/ *n* 1 *esp. AmE* a piece of meat from above the foot of an animal, esp. a pig: *ham hocks* 2 the middle joint of an animal's back leg —see picture at HORSE

**hock**<sup>2</sup> *n* [U] *esp. BrE* a German white wine

**hock**<sup>3</sup> *n* in **hock** *sl* a pawned (PAWN<sup>1</sup>) **b** in debt: *The country is completely in hock to the international banks.*

**hock**<sup>4</sup> *v* [T] *sl* for PAWN<sup>1</sup>

**hockey** /'hɒki || 'hɑːki/ *n* [U] 1 *esp. BrE* || **field hockey** *esp. AmE*— a game played by two teams of 11 players each, with sticks and a ball. Hockey is usu. played in winter. 2 *esp. AmE* for ICE HOCKEY —see REFEREE (USAGE), and see picture at STICK

**Hock-ney** /'hɒkni || 'hɑːk-/ *David* (1937– ) an English artist known esp. for his paintings of people and water

**ho-cus-po-cus** /,həʊkəs 'pəʊkəs/ *n* [U] 1 the use of tricks to deceive; TRICKERY 2 pointless activity or words, esp. when they draw people's attention away from the real facts or situation

**hod** /hɒd || 'hɑːd/ *n* a container shaped like a box with a long handle, used by builders' workmen for carrying bricks

**hodge-podge** /'hɒdʒpɒdʒ || 'hɑːdʒpɑːdʒ/ *n* [S] *esp. AmE* for HOTCHPOTCH

**hoe**<sup>1</sup> /həʊ/ *n* a long-handled garden tool used for breaking up the soil and removing wild plants (WEEDS) —see picture at GARDEN

**hoe**<sup>2</sup> *v* **hoed**, **hoeing** [I;T] to use a hoe (on)

**Hof-fa** /'hɒfə || 'hɑːfə, 'hɑː-/ *Jimmy* (1913–75?) an American TRADE UNION leader, president of the Teamsters, who was believed to be associated with the Mafia and who was sent to prison for FRAUD (deception) and several other crimes. He is thought to have been murdered in 1975, but his body has not been found.

**Hoff-man** /'hɒfmən || 'hɑːf-/ *Dus-tin* /'dʌstɪn/ (1937– ) an American film actor best known for his roles in the films *The Graduate*, *Kramer vs. Kramer*, and *Midnight Cowboy* —see colour picture on page 228

**hog**<sup>1</sup> /hɒg || 'hɑːg, hɔːg/ *n* 1 *AmE* a pig, esp. a fat one for eating 2 a male pig that cannot produce young and is kept for meat —compare BOAR (1), SOW<sup>2</sup> 3 a person who eats too much: *You greedy hog!* 4 *go the whole hog infml* to do something thoroughly; go to the limits of what is possible: *Instead of ordering a glass of wine each, we went the whole hog and ordered a bottle.* —see also ROAD HOG

**hog**<sup>2</sup> *v* -gg- [T] *infml* 1 to keep or use (all of something) for oneself, esp. unfairly: *He's been hogging the bathroom and no one else can get in.* 2 **hog the road** to drive so that other cars cannot get past

**Ho-gan** /'həʊgən/, *Paul* (1939– ) an Australian actor, famous esp. for his film *Crocodile Dundee* in which he plays a hunter, living in the OUTBACK, who is invited to visit New York

**Ho-garth** /'həʊgɑːθ || -ɑːrθ/, *William* (1697–1764) an English

artist whose most famous work shows the weaknesses and wicked pleasures of his times

**hog-gish** /'hɒgɪʃ || 'hɑː-, 'hɔː-/ *adj* (of people or habits) pig-like, dirty, selfish, etc.

**Hog-ma-nay** /'hɒgməneɪ || 'hɑːgmə'neɪ/ *n* [U] (in Scotland) New Year's Eve and the parties, drinking, etc., which take place then

► **CULTURAL NOTE** In Scotland, Hogmanay is a very important celebration. Many people go to parties and drink a lot of alcohol. At midnight, when the old year ends and the new year begins, people kiss each other, sing *Auld Lang Syne*, and often go to visit friends to have a drink with them. This visiting is called **First Footing**. ◀

**hogs-head** /'hɒgzhed || 'hɑːgz-, 'hɔːgz-/ *n* 1 a barrel, esp. one which holds 52½ GALLONS (=238.5 litres) in Britain, or 63 GALLONS in the US 2 the amount of liquid which can be held in a hogshead

**hog-wash** /'hɒgwɒʃ || 'hɑːgwɒʃ, 'hɔːg-, -wɔːʃ/ *n* [U] *esp. AmE* stupid talk; nonsense: *That's a load of hogwash!*

**ho-hum** /,hə' -/ *adj infml derog* uninteresting, ordinary, or boring: *It was a ho-hum sort of day.* | *I thought the show was pretty ho-hum, which was disappointing.*

**hoi pol-loi** /,hɔɪ pə'ləɪ/ *n* [the+P] *derog* ordinary people; the MASSES. This expression is used by someone who considers such people to be uneducated and of little worth.

**hoist**<sup>1</sup> /hɔɪst/ *v* [T (UP)] 1 to raise, lift, or pull up (a flag or something heavy), esp. using ropes: *The sailors hoisted the flag/hoisted the cargo onto the deck.* | *He hoisted the sack over his shoulder.* 2 **hoist with one's own petard** *pomp. or humor* made to suffer by some evil plan by which one had intended to harm others

**hoist**<sup>2</sup> *n* 1 an upward push 2 an apparatus for lifting heavy goods

**hoi-ty-toi-ty** /,hɔɪti 'tɔɪti/ *adj old-fash derog* behaving in a proud way, as if thinking one is more important than other people; HAUGHTY

**Hok-kai-do** /hɒ'kaɪdəʊ || 'həʊ-/ the second largest island of Japan, in the N

**ho-kum** /'həʊkəm/ *n* [U] *sl, esp. AmE* foolish talk, esp. when intended to deceive or cause admiration; nonsense

**Hol-born** /'həʊbən || -bɜːn/ an area in central London, to the W of the City, with many famous buildings

**hold**<sup>1</sup> /həʊld/ *v* **held** /held/, **holding** ■ to keep or support something 1 [T] to keep or support using the hands or arms (or another part of the body): *He was holding a knife in one hand and a fork in the other.* | *She held her daughter's hand as they crossed the road.* | *I held the baby in my arms.* | *Hold it by the handle at the side.* | *The dog held a newspaper between its teeth.* 2 [T] to bear the weight of; support: *Will this branch hold me?* 3 [T+obj+adv/ prep] to put or keep (oneself or a part of the body) in a particular position: *They held their heads up.* | *The dog held its tail between its legs.* | (fig.) *We held ourselves in readiness for the attack.* ■ to stay in or keep something in a particular place, position, or state 4 [T+obj+adv/ prep] to cause to remain in the stated condition or position: *The picture is held in place by a hook.* | *She held the lid down while I locked the suitcase.* | *The roof is held up by pillars.* | *Hold it over the fire until it's dry.* | *The children held out their hands and I gave them some sweets.* —see also HOLD back (1) 5 [I] a to remain unchanged; last: *How long will this good weather hold?* | *If our luck holds (=if we continue to be lucky) we'll win the competition.* **b** to remain in position, esp. in spite of pressure, weight, etc.: *Can our line hold, or will the enemy push us back?* | *I don't think the shelf will hold if we put anything else on it.* **c** to remain true; continue to have effect: *What I said yesterday still holds.* 6 [T] to keep and not allow to leave; CONFINE (2): *Police are holding two men in connection with the jewel robbery.* | *The terrorists held them prisoner/hold them hostage.* 7 [T] a (of a ship or aircraft) to continue to follow (a direction): *The plane held a northwesterly course.* **b** (of a singer) to continue to sing (a musical note): *to hold a high note* ■ to have or keep control over something 8 [T] to keep control over; not use: *The general ordered his men to hold their fire.* (=not shoot) | *We held our breath in fear.* | *Hold your tongue!* (=Be quiet!) 9 [T] (esp. of an army) to keep or defend against attack: *The French army held the town for three days.* | *At the election, the Republicans held this seat, but with a reduced majority.* 10 [T] to keep (the interest or



attention) of (someone): *His speech held everyone's attention.* **11** [T not in progressive forms] to possess (money, land, or position): *He holds a half share in the business.* | *She holds the office of chairman.* —see also **HOLDER** (1) ■ other meanings **12** [T not in progressive forms] to (be able to) contain; have space for: *How much water does the pan hold?* | *The cinema holds about 500.* | (fig.) *Life holds many surprises.* **13** [T not in progressive forms] to have or express (a belief, opinion, etc.): *She holds strong left-wing views.* [+that] *I hold that this policy is mistaken.* [+obj+to-v] *The court held him to have (=believed he had) told the truth.* [+obj+adj] *I hold you responsible for this fiasco.* **14** [T] to cause to take place; make happen: *The meeting will be held at the Town Hall.* | *to hold an election* **15** [I] also **hold the line**—to wait until the person one has telephoned is ready to answer: *Ms Smith's line is engaged — will you hold?* ■ fixed phrases **16** **be left holding the baby** (BrE) / **the bag** (AmE) to find oneself responsible for doing something which someone else has started and left unfinished **17** **hold all the cards** to have a very strong advantage **18** **hold court** often *humor* to receive admirers in a group **19** **hold good** to be or remain true: *This rule holds good at all times and places.* **20** **hold hands** (with) to hold the hand (of someone else) or the hands (of each other), esp. as a sign of love. Holding hands is often thought to be typical of young and inexperienced lovers: *He wanted to do a bit more than just holding hands!* **21** **Hold it!** *infml* a Stay like that; don't move! **b** (used when interrupting someone talking) Stop for a moment! **22** **hold one's head high** to show pride or confidence in oneself, esp. in a difficult situation **23** **hold one's own:** **a** to keep one's (strong) position, even when attacked **b** not to get worse or weaker: *"How is she, doctor?" "She's holding her own."* **24** **hold the fort** to look after everything while someone is away: *When she had to go to America, her daughter held the fort at home.* **25** **hold the road** (of a car) to stay in position on the road while moving, esp. in spite of speed, wet weather, etc. **26** **hold water** (*usu. in questions or negatives*) to be or seem true, reasonable, or believable: *His explanation of where he got the money from just doesn't hold water.* **27** **Hold your horses!** *infml* Don't rush too quickly into an action or decision! **28** **not hold a candle to** *infml* to be unable to match someone or something else in quality, skill, etc.: *In terms of value for money this car can't hold a candle to the French one.* **29** **speak now, or forever hold your peace** state your opposition now, or it will be too late and you will have to remain silent (a phrase based on part of the Christian marriage service) ■ phrasal verbs

**hold sthg. against sbdy.** *phr v* [T] to allow (something bad done by someone) to influence one's feelings about (that person): *It's not fair to hold the boy's past bad behaviour against him.* | *Don't hold it against him that he's been in prison.*

**hold back** *phr v* **1** [T] (**hold sthg. ↔ back**) to make (something) stay in place; prevent from moving, esp. in spite of pressure: *They built banks of earth to hold back the rising flood waters.* —see also **HOLD**<sup>1</sup> (4) **2** [T] (**hold sthg. ↔ back**) to prevent the expression of (feelings, tears, etc.); control: *Jim was able to hold back his anger and avoid a fight.* **3** [T] (**hold sbdy. ↔ back**) to prevent the development of: *You could become a good musician, but your lack of practice is holding you back.* **4** [I] to be slow or unwilling to act, esp. through nervousness or carefulness —compare **HOLD off** (1) **5** [I;T (=hold sthg. ↔ back)] to keep (something) secret; **WITHHOLD:** *You must tell us the whole story: don't hold (anything) back.*

**hold sthg./sbdy. ↔ down** *phr v* [T] **1** to keep at a low level: *We must try to hold down the rate of interest.* **2** to control or limit the freedom of; **OPPRESS:** *The people were held down by a ruthless secret police.* **3** **hold down a job** to manage to stay in a job for a fairly long period; keep a job: *She hasn't managed to hold down a job for more than a few weeks.*

**hold forth** *phr v* [I (about, on)] *usu. derog* to speak or express one's opinions at length

**hold off** *phr v* **1** [T] (**hold sbdy./sthg. ↔ off**) to cause to remain at a distance; prevent the advance of: *We somehow managed to hold off the enemy's attack.* —compare **HOLD back** (4) **2** [T] (**hold sthg. ↔ off**) to delay: [+obj/v-ing] *The committee will hold off their decision/hold off making their decision until Monday.* **3** [I] to be delayed;

stay away: *Do you think the rain will hold off until after the game?*

**hold on** *phr v* [I] **1** to wait (often on the telephone); **HANG on** (2): *Hold on a minute — I'll just get a pen.* **2** to continue in spite of difficulties: *Try and hold on until help arrives.*

**hold onto sbdy./sthg.** *phr v* [T] to keep possession of, esp. in spite of difficulties: *She managed to hold onto her job when several of her colleagues lost theirs*

**hold out** *phr v* **1** [T] (**hold out sthg.**) to offer: *These plans hold out the prospect of new jobs for the area.* | *I don't hold out much hope that the weather will improve.* **2** [I] to continue to exist; last: *How much longer can our supplies hold out?* **3** [I] to continue in spite of difficulties; **ENDURE:** *The town was surrounded but the people held out until help came.*

**hold out for sthg.** also **stick out for sthg.**—*phr v* [T] to demand firmly and wait in order to get: *The men are still holding out for more pay.*

**hold out on sbdy.** *phr v* [T] *infml* to refuse to give support, information, etc. to; keep something back from: *Why didn't you tell me at once, instead of holding out on me?*

**hold sthg. over** *phr v* [T often pass.] to move to a later date; **DEFER:** *The concert was held over until the following week because of the singer's illness.* —see also **HOLDOVER**

**hold to** *phr v* [T] **1** (**hold (sbdy.) to sthg.**) to (cause to) follow exactly or remain loyal to: *Whatever your argument, I shall hold to my decision.* | *We held him to his promise.* (=made him keep it) **2** (**hold sbdy. to sthg.**) to not allow to do better than or get more than: *We managed to hold the other team to a draw.*

**hold together** *phr v* [I;T (=hold sbdy./sthg. ↔ together)] to (cause to) remain united: *The needs of the children held their marriage together.* | *The party has held together in spite of differences of opinion.*

**hold sthg./sbdy. ↔ up** *phr v* [T] **1** [often pass.] delay: *The building of the new road has been held up by bad weather.* | *An unofficial strike has held up production.* **2** to (try to) rob by using the threat of violence: *The criminals held up the train/the bank and took all the money.* **3** [(as, to)] to show as an example: *The old man always held up his youngest son as a model of hard work.* —see also **HOLDUP**

**hold with sthg.** *phr v* [T *usu. in negatives*] to approve of; agree with: *She doesn't hold with these modern ideas.* [+v-ing] *I don't hold with letting people smoke in public.*

**hold**<sup>2</sup> *n* **1** [U] the act of holding (esp. in the phrases **take/get/lose/lay hold of**): *I got hold of it in both hands and lifted it onto the table.* | *He lost hold of the rope and fell.* **2** [C] something which can be held, esp. in climbing: *Can you find a hold for your hands?* —see also **FOOTHOLD** **3** [S] **a** the forceful closing of the hand: *He's got a strong hold.* **b** [(of, on)] influence; control: *She's got a good hold of her subject.* | *trying to keep a hold on* (=not lose) *his sanity* **4** **get hold of:** **a** to find and make use of: *I must get hold of some more writing paper.* **b** to find someone for a reason: *I'll try to get hold of her and ask her where the books are.* **5** **have a hold over** to know something which gives one an influence over (someone) **6** **no holds barred** not keeping to any rules or limits: *a no holds barred contest* **7** **on hold:** **a** waiting to speak or be spoken to on the telephone: *The caller is on hold.* | *Put him on hold.* (=make him wait) **b** delayed; in a state in which no action is taken for a time: *We've put the project on hold for a month.*

**hold**<sup>3</sup> *n* the part of a ship (below **DECK**) where goods are stored

**hold-all** /'həʊld-ɔ:l/ || also **carryall** *AmE*—*n* a large bag or small case for carrying clothes and articles necessary for travelling

**hold-er** /'həʊldə/ *n* (often in comb.) **1** a person who possesses or has control of a place, land, money, or titles: *The holder of the office of chairman is responsible for arranging meetings.* —see also **HOLD**<sup>1</sup> (11) **2** something which holds or contains the stated thing: *a candle holder* —see also **CIGARETTE HOLDER**

**hold-ing** /'həʊldɪŋ/ *n* something which one possesses, esp. land or **SHARES**<sup>1</sup> (2) in a company —see also **SMALLHOLDING**

**holding com-pa-ny** /'həʊldɪŋ ˌkʌmpəni/ *n* a company that holds a controlling number of the **SHARES**<sup>1</sup> (2) of other companies —compare **INVESTMENT COMPANY**

**hold-o-ver** /'həʊld-əʊvə/ *n* [(from)] *esp. AmE* something



## a Californian beach



people may go walking or camping in the mountains. Many people have CAMPERs or small TRAILERS in which to travel, or if they are in a car, they may stay at MOTELS on the journey. Disneyland and Disneyworld are also popular and people can go skiing (SKI) in the Rocky Mountains of Colorado, Wyoming and Montana.

It is also very common to use vacations to visit relatives who may live in states a long distance away. Some children go to SUMMER CAMP for a holiday during the summer vacation from school, where they do special activities

such as sports or CRAFTS (eg, making things from wood or cloth).

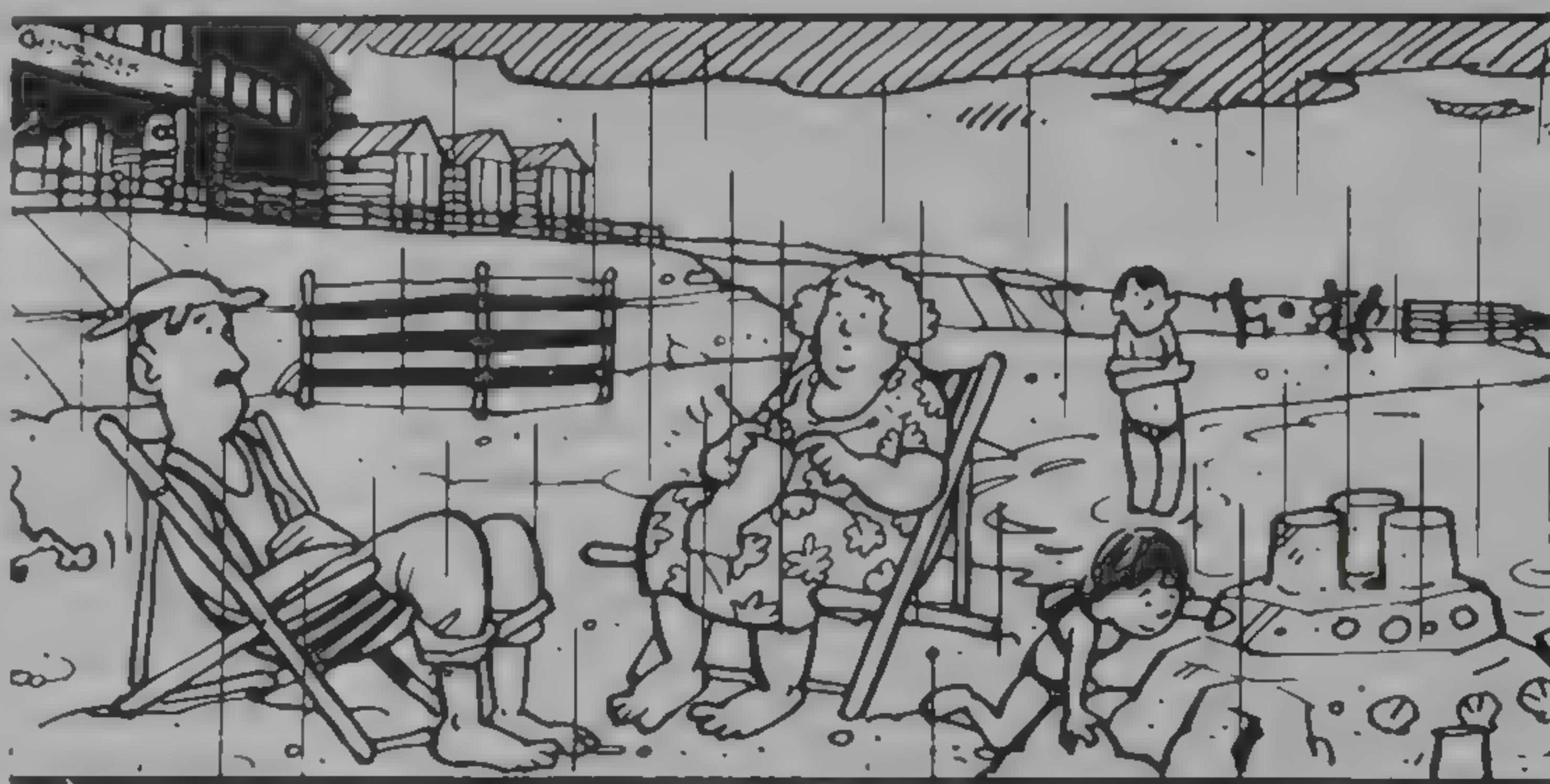
When Americans want a holiday for sun and rest, they usually go to Florida, Hawaii, Mexico or the Caribbean. They may go

## Paid holidays

People in the US get 2 weeks a year paid vacation (=holiday) from their job. Most British people have four or five weeks paid holiday a year. Americans often complain that two weeks is not enough holiday, especially when they hear about the longer holidays that EUROPEANS get. In addition, there are 8 days in each country which are public holidays (*BrE* =BANK HOLIDAY) and many of these fall on a Monday giving people a LONG WEEKEND (also called THREE-DAY WEEKEND in *AmE* or Bank Holiday weekend in *BrE*). In Britain, so many people drive to another part of the country, especially the coast, on Bank Holiday weekends that there are serious TRAFFIC JAMS (=lines of cars not able to move) which may stretch for many miles.

## Popular holiday places

Within the US, outdoor vacations are popular, for example at the Grand Canyon or Yosemite or Yellowstone or other national parks or forests. Young



## a British seaside holiday

## Bank Holiday traffic



to Europe for CULTURE (2) (for example to see art, plays, and places of historic interest).

In Britain, many people like to go to the SEASIDE (=place by the sea) for holidays. There are places near the sea, such as Blackpool, Scarborough and Bournemouth, where there is plenty to do even if it rains. In a traditional British seaside holiday, the children can watch a PUNCH AND JUDY show, eat CANDY FLOSS and ROCK (2,4) (=sweets) and make SANDCASTLES, while older people can hire a DECKCHAIR to sit on the BEACH. People also like to go to the country, especially to walk, in places like Scotland, Wales and the Lake District.

When the British go abroad they usually want to go somewhere warm. Spain and the Spanish islands of Majorca and Ibiza are popular as are other places in southern Europe. For skiing, people often go to the Alps.

## Where people stay on holiday

The less expensive ways of going on holidays are to take a camper or CARAVAN in which you can stay or to go camping. It is also cheaper when travelling abroad to go on a PACKAGE TOUR in which your hotel and flight are arranged for you. You can stay in a BED AND BREAKFAST (also called a B AND B) which is usually a private house which takes paying guests and provides them with a room for the night and breakfast for the following morning. In Britain this is usually cheaper than a hotel though in the US it is more expensive. Some people buy TIMESHARES, that is they become part owners of a holiday home and it is theirs to use a certain time every year. Companies which sell timeshares are famous for trying very hard to persuade people to buy their houses, often offering prizes as a reward for buying them. Some British people go on SELF-CATERING holidays where they buy and cook their own food.



that has continued to exist longer than expected —see also **HOLD OVER**

**hold-up** /'həʊld-ʌp/ *n* 1 a delay, e.g. of traffic 2 also **stickup** *infml*— an attempt at robbery by threatening people with a gun —see also **HOLD UP**

**hole** /həʊl/ *n* 1 [(in)] a an empty space inside something solid; CAVITY: *The men have dug a hole in the road.* b a space or opening going through something; GAP: *There's a hole in my sock.* | *We squeezed through a hole in the fence.* 2 a (often in comb.) the home of a small animal: *a rabbit hole* b *infml* a small unpleasant living-place: *What are you doing living in this hole?* 3 *infml* a position of difficulty; PREDICAMENT: *John's resignation puts us in a bit of a hole.* 4 [(in)] a fault in reasoning: *trying to pick holes in the other side's arguments* (=to find the weak points) | *Her theory is full of holes.* 5 || also **cup** *AmE*— (in GOLF) a a hollow place in the ground into which the ball must be hit b an area of play with such a hole at the far end: *an 18-hole golf course* | *The next hole is 450 yards long.* —see picture at GOLF 6 **make a hole in** *infml* to use up a large part of: *The cost of the repairs had made a big hole in our savings.* 7 **need something like a hole in the head** *infml* to see something as unwelcome and adding to other problems: *I needed another bill like I needed a hole in the head.* —see also **BLACK HOLE**, **WATERING HOLE**

**hole**<sup>2</sup> 1 [T] to make a hole in: *Our ship was holed and began to sink.* 2 [I (OUT);T] to hit (the ball) into a **HOLE**<sup>1</sup> (5) in GOLF

**hole up** *phr v* [I+adv/prep] *sl* to hide as a means of escape: *After the bank robbery, the criminals holed up in a disused factory.*

**hole-and-corner** /, . . 'lɔː- / *adj* [A] (of actions) secret or hidden, esp. because dishonest; FURTIVE: *"I'm sick of this hole-and-corner relationship!" she shouted.*

**hole in one** /, . . 'lɔː- / *n* (in GOLF) an act of hitting the ball from the starting place into the hole with only one stroke

**hole in the heart** /, . . . 'lɔː- / *n* [S] *infml* a medical condition sometimes found at birth where the two sides of the heart are not properly separated: *She has had an operation for (=to cure) a hole in the heart.* —**hole-in-the-heart** *adj*: *a hole-in-the-heart baby*

**hole-in-the-wall** /, . . . 'lɔː- / *n* 1 *BrE* for CASH DISPENSER 2 *AmE* a small business, esp. a restaurant, that may not be easy to find

**hol-i-day** /'hɒlədi/ || 'hɑːlədeɪ/ || *usu. vacation* *AmE*— *n* 1 a time of rest from work, esp. a also **public holiday**— a day on which there is a general stopping of work: *Next Friday is a holiday.* | *The Fourth of July is a national holiday of the US.* b *esp. BrE* a day or period in which one does not go to work, school, etc.: *According to your contract, you get 25 days' paid holiday a year.* | *The school holidays start on Wednesday.* c also **holidays** *pl.*— *esp. BrE* a period of free time in which one travels to another place for enjoyment: *We're going to Spain for our holiday(s).* | *a skiing holiday* | *They have a holiday retreat (=a house etc. in a peaceful place, where they spend their holidays) in the mountains.* 2 **on holiday/on one's holidays** having a holiday, esp. over a period of time: *away on holiday* —see also **BANK HOLIDAY**, **BUSMAN'S HOLIDAY** —see also extra information on page 632

▷ **USAGE** Compare **holiday(s)**, **vacation**, and **leave**.

**Holiday** is the general word in British English for a period of rest from work, although it is not usually used for a single day off from work (unless the day is given to everyone), and it is not usually used of the weekend. The plural **holidays** can be used of any of the longer periods of rest from work in a year (but not of a single day or weekend). The general word in American English is **vacation**: *In this job you get four weeks holiday (BrE)/vacation (AmE) a year.* | *We're going to France during the summer holiday(s) (BrE)/vacation (AmE).* In British English **vacation** is used for the period when universities are closed: *The library is closed during the college vacation.* Soldiers and people employed by the government go on **leave** and this word is also used in expressions like *sick leave* and *leave of absence*. <

**holiday**<sup>2</sup> also **vacation** *AmE*— *v* [I+adv/prep] to spend one's holiday: *holidaying in Majorca*

**Holiday, Bil-lie** /'bɪli/ (1915–59) an American JAZZ singer, often considered the greatest jazz singer ever, with an

easily recognizable style. She came from a poor background and her early death was caused by drugs.

**holiday brochure** /'... || '... . *n* a small thin book with a paper cover advertising holidays arranged by a travel company, usu. with brightly coloured pictures of places where one can spend holidays: *We spent the evening looking at holiday brochures, planning where to go in summer.*

**holiday camp** /'... - / *n* *BrE* a place, often by the sea, where people can go for their holidays. Holiday camps have buildings where people can sleep, restaurants, bars, and often a FUNFAIR, all in the same area. Holidays in holiday camps were very popular in the 1950s and 1960s when many people could not afford to go abroad for their holidays.

**holiday home** /'... - / *n* a house, flat, etc. where people, esp. a family, go during the holidays: *Dozens of Welsh cottages have been bought by English people as holiday homes.*

**Holiday Inn** /, ... 'lɔː- / *n* *tdmk* one of a group of American hotels, found in the US and many other countries

**hol-i-day-mak-er** /'hɒlədi,meɪkə/ || 'hɑːlədeɪ- / also **vacationer** *AmE*— *n* a person who has travelled to another place for a holiday —**ing** *n* [U]

**hol-i-er-than-thou** /, ... . 'lɔː- / *adj* *derog* thinking oneself to be morally better than other people; **SANCTIMONIOUS**

**hol-i-ness** /'həʊlɪnəs/ *n* [U] the state or quality of being holy

**Holiness** *n* (a title of the Pope): *Your Holiness* | *His Holiness Pope John Paul* | *His Holiness the Pope*

**hol-is-tic** /həʊ'lɪstɪk/ *adj* based on the principle that a whole thing or being is more than just a collection of parts added together: *holistic medicine* (=which treats the whole person, not just the diseased part) | *a holistic approach to education* —**ally** /kli/ *adv*

**Hol-land** /'hɒlənd/ || 'hɑː- / see **NETHERLANDS**

**hol-ler** /'hɒlə/ || 'hɑː- / *v* [I (at);T] *infml, esp. AmE* to shout out, e.g. to attract attention or because of pain: *"Let go," he hollered.* | *Just holler if you need me!* —**holler** *n*: *She let out a holler when she saw me.*

**hol-low** /'hɒləʊ/ || 'hɑː- / *adj* 1 having an empty space inside: *The pillars look solid, but in fact they're hollow.* 2 (of parts of the body) lacking flesh so that the skin sinks inwards: *hollow cheeks* 3 (of sounds) having a ringing sound like the note when an empty container is struck: *the hollow sound of a large bell* 4 (of feelings, words, events, etc.) without real meaning or value: *the hollow promises of insincere politicians* | *a hollow victory* —see also **beat someone hollow** (**BEAT**<sup>1</sup>) —**ly** *adv* —**ness** *n* [U]

**hollow**<sup>2</sup> *n* a space made in the surface of something, esp. in the ground

**hollow**<sup>3</sup> *v*

**hollow** sthg. ↔ **out** *phr v* [T] 1 to make a hollow place in: *to hollow out a log* 2 to make by doing this: *to hollow out a canoe from a log*

**Hol-lo-way** /'hɒləweɪ/ || 'hɑːl- / a prison for women in London

**hol-ly** /'hɒli/ || 'hɑːli/ *n* [U] (a small tree) with dark green shiny prickly leaves and red berries. At Christmas, British and American people decorate their houses with holly.



**Holly, Buddy** (1936–59) an American popular music singer, GUITAR player, and songwriter who was very influential and had an easily recognizable style. He was killed in a plane crash. —see colour picture on page 554

**Holly and the Ivy** /, ... . 'lɔː- /, *The* the title and first line of a religious song (CAROL) sung at Christmas

**hol-ly-hock** /'hɒlihɒk/ || 'hɑːlihɒk/ *n* a garden flower which grows very tall

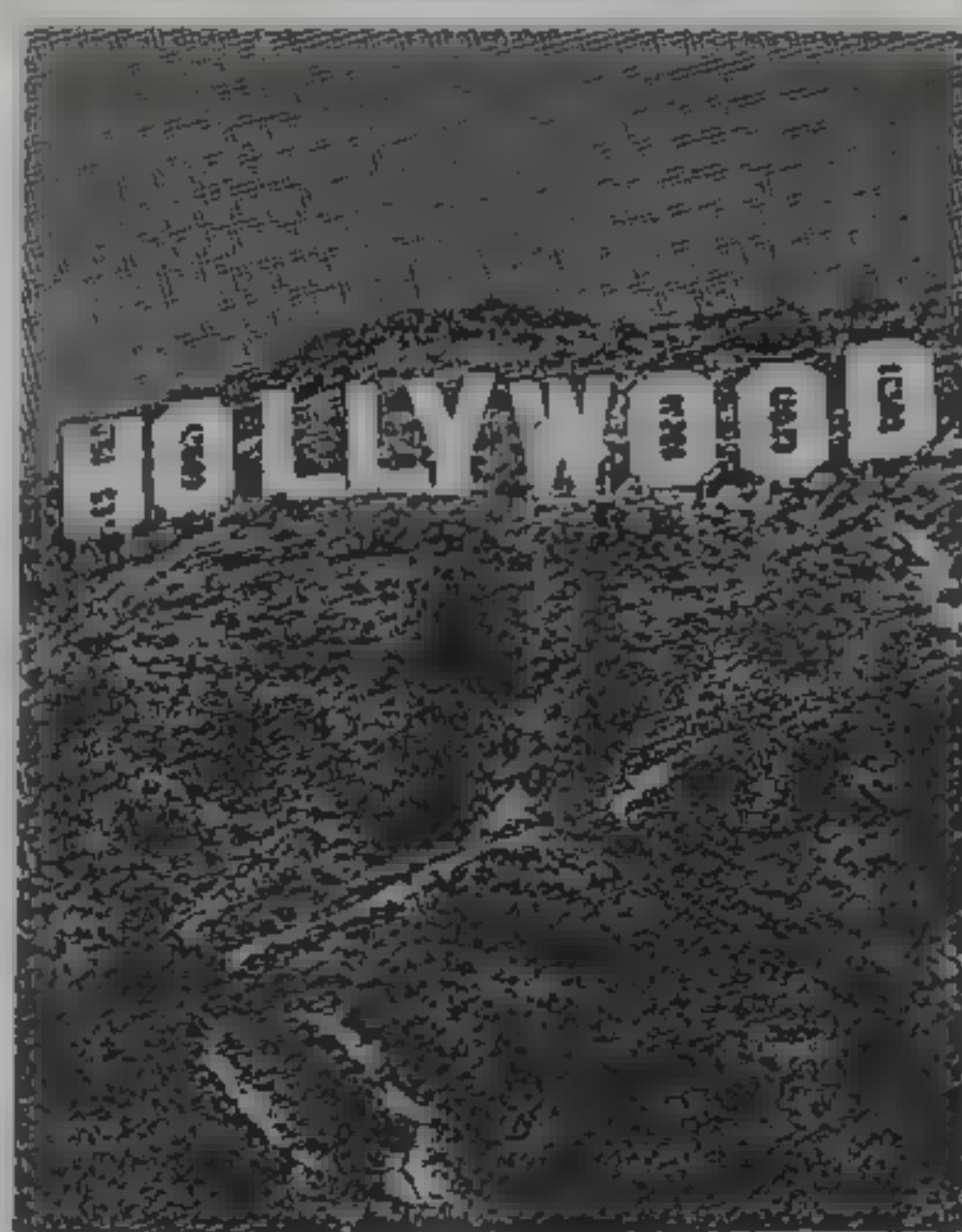
**Hol-ly-wood** /'hɒliwud/ || 'hɑːl- / an area of Los Angeles which is known as the centre of the American film industry. It is generally thought that everyone living in Hollywood is extremely rich, famous, and concerned with appearances but in fact many parts of Hollywood today are poor, dirty, and badly cared for. —see colour map on page 1374–5

**Hollywood Bowl** /, ... 'lɔː- / [*the*] a theatre in Hollywood,



California, with a covered stage for performers and outdoor seats for people to watch and listen. It is usu. used for musical entertainment.

**Holmes** /həʊmz/, **Sher-lock** /'ʃɜ:lɒk||'ʃɜ:rlɔ:k/ a DETECTIVE in stories by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. Holmes smokes a pipe, plays the VIOLIN, and uses his impressive brain to understand mysterious deaths and other problems. He often says "Elementary, my dear Watson" to his friend Dr Watson, to show how easy to understand something is.



Hollywood



Sherlock Holmes

**hol-o-caust** /'hɒləkɔ:st||'hɑ:z/ *n* great destruction and the loss of many lives, esp. by burning: *Millions of lives would be lost in a nuclear holocaust.*

**Holocaust** [the] the period of killing and cruel treatment of Jews by Hitler and the Nazi Party in the 1930s and 1940s

**hol-o-gram** /'hɒləgræm||'həʊl-, 'hɑ:l-/ *n* a photograph-like picture of something made with LASER light, which, when this light is shone on it again, makes the thing appear to be solid rather than flat —compare HOLOGRAPH

**hol-o-graph** /'hɒləgrɑ:f||'həʊləgræf, 'hɑ:l-/ *n* a book etc. written by hand by the author —compare HOLOGRAM

**hol-o-graph-y** /hɒ'lɒgrəfi||həʊ'la:z-/ *n* [U] the science of producing holograms

**hols** /hɒlz||hɑ:lz/ *n* [P + sing./pl.v] *BrE infml* HOLIDAY<sup>1</sup> (2) b and c

**Holst** /həʊlst/, **Gus-tav** /'gustɑ:v||'gɑ:s-/ (1874–1934) a British COMPOSER whose most famous musical work is called *The Planets*

**Hol-stein** /'hɒlstən, 'hɒlsti:n||'hɑ:z/ *n* esp. *AmE* for FRIESIAN

**hol-ster** /'həʊlstə/ *n* a leather holder for a PISTOL (=small gun), esp. one that hangs on a belt round the waist

**ho-ly** /'həʊli/ *adj* **1** [no comp.] connected with God and religion; SACRED: *the Holy Bible* | *the holy city of Mecca/Benares* **2** giving oneself to the service of God and religion; pure and good: *a holy man* | *to lead a holy life* **3** [A] *sl euph* very bad (esp. in the phrase **a holy terror** (=a person who causes a lot of usu. not very serious trouble)) —see also UNHOLY

**Holy Bi-ble** /,.. '..| [the] the BIBLE

**holy cit-y** /'.. ,..| *n* **1** a city which is a centre of religious activity and has been such a centre for some time **2** the Holy City JERUSALEM

**Holy Com-mu-nion** /,.. . '..| *n* [U] COMMUNION

**Holy Fam-i-ly** /,.. '...| [the] Jesus, his mother Mary, and her husband Joseph

**Holy Fa-ther** /,.. '..| [(the)] God

**Holy Ghost** /,.. '..| [the] the HOLY SPIRIT

**Holy Grail** /,.. '..| also **Grail**— [the] the cup believed to have been used by Christ before his death, and in which, it is said, some of his blood was collected. It was searched for by King Arthur's KNIGHTS but never found: (fig.) *economic growth without inflation — the politicians' Holy Grail* (=they try to get it but never can)

**Hol-y-head** /'hɒlihed||'hɑ:z/ **1** an island off the NW coast

of Anglesey **2** the main town on Holyhead, a port from which ferries (FERRY<sup>1</sup>) sail to Ireland

**Holy Is-land** /'.. ,..| an island off the NE coast of Northumberland, also known as **Lindisfarne**

**Holy Land** /'.. ,..| [the] a general name for those parts of the Middle East connected with the first Christians, Jews, and Muslims, also known as Palestine, in which most of the events mentioned in the Bible took place

**Holy Loch** /,.. '..| an INLET of the Atlantic Ocean, on the W coast of Scotland NW of Glasgow, where the US navy used to have a base for NUCLEAR SUBMARINES

**holy of ho-lies** /,.. . '..| [the] **1** the most holy inner part of a Jewish temple **2** *sometimes humor* a place where people are not usu. allowed to go: *The headmaster invited us into that holy of holies, his study.*

**Holy Rol-ler** /,.. '..| *n* *AmE infml derog* a member of a (Christian) church which has rather loud and emotional services

**Holy Ro-man Em-pire** /,.. ,.. '..| [the] a large collection of lands ruled by one man, mainly in what is now Germany and Italy, which lasted from the ninth century until 1806

**Hol-y-rood Pal-ace** /,hɒliɹu:d 'pælɪs||,hɑ:z/ a large house in Edinburgh owned by the British royal family

**Holy See** /,.. '..| [the] *fml* the office of the Pope (=the most important priest in the Roman Catholic church)

**Holy Spir-it** /,.. '..| also **Holy Ghost**— [the] (according to many Christian churches) God in the form of a spirit

**holy war** /,.. '..| *n* a war fought in the name of a religion, for example to defend its beliefs

**Holy Week** /'.. .| (in the Christian church) the week between Palm Sunday and Easter. In Britain people work as usual during Holy Week except that GOOD FRIDAY is a public holiday.

**Holy Writ** /,.. '..| *n* [U] **1** the Bible **2** any writing or statement that is regarded as completely true and unquestionable

**hom-age** /'hɒmɪdʒ||'hɑ:z/ *n* [S;U (to)] *fml* signs of great respect, shown esp. to a ruler (esp. in the phrases **pay/do homage to someone**)

**hom-burg** /'hɒmbɜ:g||'hɑ:mbɜ:rg/ *n* a soft FELT<sup>2</sup> hat for men, with a wide piece (BRIM) standing out round the edge

**home**<sup>1</sup> /həʊm/ *n* **1** [C;U] **a** the house, flat, etc. where one lives. One's home is considered to be a safe and comfortable place which others only enter by invitation: *I left my briefcase at home.* | *They have a charming home in London.* | *Now that we have more furniture, the flat is beginning to feel like home.* | (fig.) *Has this pan got a home?* (=a place where it is usually kept) **b** a house, flat, etc. considered as property: *home buyers* | *"Attractive modern homes for sale"* (advertisement) | *home owners* | *There has been an increase in home ownership.* (=in the number of people who are buying or have bought their own homes) **c** the place where one was born or habitually lives and to which one usu. has emotional ties: *Nigeria is my home, but I'm living in London just now.* | *She was born in Denver, but she's made Los Angeles her home.* —see HOUSE (USAGE) **2** [C;U] the house and family one belongs to: *She came from a poor home.* | *a happy home life* | *He didn't leave home until he was 21.* **3** [the+S+of] **a** a place where a plant or animal can be found living or growing wild, esp. in large numbers: *India is the home of elephants and tigers.* **b** the place where something was originally discovered, made, or developed: *America is the home of baseball.* **4** [C] a place for the care of a group of people or animals of the same type, who do not live with a family, and who usu. have special needs or problems: *a children's home* | *an old people's home* | *If he gets worse we'll have to put him in a home.* —see also REST HOME **5** [U] (in some games and sports) a place which a player must try to reach, such as the GOAL or the finishing line of a race —see also HOME RUN, HOME STRETCH **6** **at home** *old-fash* ready to receive visitors: *If he telephones, say I'm not at home to visitors until ten.* **7** **be/feel at home** to be comfortable; not feel worried, esp. because one has the right skills or experience: *She's completely at home with computers.* **8** **Home, James, and don't spare the horses!** a phrase used humorously when telling someone to drive you home quickly **9** **make oneself at home** (often imperative) to behave freely, sit



where one likes, etc., as if one were in one's own home  
**10 home sweet home** a phrase used when saying how pleasant it is to be in your own home **11 there's no place like home** a phrase from an old popular song, meaning that your own home is the nicest place to be — see also HOME FROM HOME

**home<sup>2</sup> adv** **1** to or at one's home: *Is he home from work yet? | I'm going home. | I really must be getting home in a moment.* (said by a guest who is about to go home) **2** as far as possible and/or to the right place: *He struck the nail home. | (fig.) He drove his point home with plenty of facts.* **3 come home to someone/bring something home to someone** to be clearly understood by someone/to make someone clearly understand something: *At last it's come home to us that they've been tricking us all the time.* **4 home and dry** *infml*, esp. *BrE* having safely or successfully completed something — see also **till the cows come home** (COW<sup>1</sup> (6)), **nothing to write home about** (WRITE)

▷ **USAGE** When speaking of movement towards home, use the adverb form without **to**: *I'm coming home. | Let's send the children home. | Henry'll be (=come) home before seven.* When there is no movement the usual form in British English is **at home**: *Let's stay at home this evening. | Is Henry at home?* In American English **home** is often used without the preposition: *Let's stay home this evening. | I've been home all day.* ◀

**home<sup>3</sup> adj** [A] **1** of or being a home, place of origin, or base of operations: *the home office of an international firm | What's your home address?* **2** not foreign; DOMESTIC<sup>1</sup> (4): *the home country | Are these cars made for the home market or for export?* — see also HOME OFFICE **3** prepared, done, or intended for use in a home: *home cooking | home-baked bread | a home computer* **4** played or playing at one's own sports field, rather than that of an opponent: *the home team | home games* — opposite **away** **5 homebase** esp. *AmE* a also HOME PLATE **b** a place or situation which is like one's home: *Eventually I'll return to Scotland, which is homebase.*

**home<sup>4</sup> v**

**home in on** sthg. *phr v* [T] to aim exactly towards: (fig.) *Now that we've got all the facts, we're homing in on the right answer.*

**home bak-ing** /,həʊmˈbækɪŋ/ *n* [U] (cakes etc. made by) baking things at home rather than in a factory: *Granny's home baking always tastes so much better than the cakes you buy in the shops.*

**Home-base** /'həʊmbeɪs/ one of a group of DO-IT-YOURSELF stores in Britain owned by J Sainsbury plc

**home-bod-y** /'həʊmˈbɒdi/ *n* *infml* a person who enjoys being at home. This word is usu. used to describe a woman who chooses to stay at home rather than go out to work.

**Home Box Of-ice** /,həʊmˈbɒks ɒfɪs/ also **HBO** — *n* *tdmk* an American CABLE TELEVISION company which usu. shows films

**home-boy** /'həʊmbɔɪ/ *n* *AmE infml* **1** a person who comes from the same town as you **2** a friend, used esp. by black men **3** a member of a GANG<sup>1</sup> (1b), used esp. by other members of the gang: *"You, home boy! Come here!"*

**home brew** /,həʊmˈbruː/ *n* [U] beer made at home — ~ **ed** /,həʊmˈbrɛd/ *adj*

**home-com-ing** /'həʊmˈkʌmɪŋ/ *n* **1** an arrival home, esp. after long absence **2** *AmE* an occasion when former students return to a high school or college for a REUNION (=reuniting) and usu. a football game

▶ **CULTURAL NOTE** Homecoming is usu. every autumn. It is celebrated by the students as well as by the returning GRADUATES, and includes dances and parties, and esp. in high schools, the choosing of a **homecoming queen**. She is a student, usu. chosen because she is popular and attractive. ◀

**Home Coun-ties** /,həʊmˈkaʊntiːz/ [*the*+P] the counties (COUNTY) around London, in SE England. People living in the Home Counties are often considered to be relatively wealthy and to share a comfortable way of life.

**home e-co-nom-ics** /,həʊmˈiːkənəmɪks/ *n* [U] DOMESTIC SCIENCE

**home from home** /,həʊm frəm ˈhəʊm/ *BrE* || **home a-way from home** /,həʊm əˈweɪ frəm ˈhəʊm/ *AmE* — *n* a place as pleasant, comfortable, welcoming, etc., as one's own house

**home front** /,həʊm frʌnt/ *n* [*the*] (the activities of) the people working in their own country, while others are away at war

**home fry** /'həʊmˈfraɪ/ *n* ~ **fries** *AmE* a CHIP<sup>1</sup> (3) (=long thin piece of potato) fried with its skin still on: *steak and home fries*

**home-grown** /,həʊmˈgrəʊn/ *adj* **1** (of plants for food) a grown in the home country, not abroad **b** grown in one's own garden, not bought in a shop **2** *infml* made or produced in one's own country: *homegrown TV programmes*

**Home Guard** /,həʊm ˈɡɑːd/ *n* [*the*+*sing./pl.* v] (in the Second World War) the citizen army formed at home to help to defend Britain in case of attack from abroad — compare **TER-RITORIAL ARMY**

**home help** /,həʊm ˈhelp/ *n* a person who is sent in by the medical and social services in Britain or is employed to do cleaning and cooking esp. for someone who is ill or very old

**home im-prove-ments** /,həʊm ɪmˈpruːv ments/ *n* [P] work, e.g. building new rooms, fitting better windows, insulating (INSULATE (1)) the walls, etc., which is done to a house to improve its standard of comfort

**home-land** /'həʊmlænd, -lənd/ *n* **1** the country where a person was born **2** any of several large areas of land set aside for the black population by the government of South Africa, according to the system of APARTHEID

**home-less** /'həʊmləs/ *adj* without a home and therefore often forced to sleep without shelter in streets or parks: *Londoners are concerned about the growing numbers of homeless people living in the city.* | [also *n*, *the*+P] **help for the homeless** — ~ **ness** *n* [U]

**home loan** /,həʊm ˈləʊn/ *n* *infml* for MORTGAGE

**home-ly** /'həʊmli/ *adj* **1** esp. *BrE* simple; not trying to seem important or special: *a homely meal of bread and cheese* **2** *AmE* (of people, faces, etc.) not good-looking; unattractive — compare **HOMELY** — **liness** *n* [U]

**home-made** /,həʊmˈmeɪd/ *adj* (of clothes, food, etc.) made at home, not bought from a shop

**home-mak-er** /'həʊmˈmeɪkə/ *n* *euph*, esp. *AmE* a housewife

**home mov-ie** /,həʊm ˈmʊvi/ *n* a film made privately and intended to be shown at home, not in a cinema

**Home Of-ice** /'həʊm ɒfɪs/ *n* [*the*] the British government department under the control of the Home Secretary, responsible for justice and controls on people entering Britain. A similar department in a foreign government is usu. known as the Ministry of the Interior. — compare **FCO**

**Home on the Range** /,həʊm ɒn ðə ˈræŋdʒ/ an American FOLK song whose words are often used and repeated:

*O give me a home where the buffalo roam,  
 Where the deer and the antelope play;  
 Where seldom is heard a discouraging word,  
 And the skies are not cloudy all day.*

**ho-me-o-path, homoeo-** /'həʊmiəˌpæθ/ *n* a person who practises homeopathy.

**ho-me-op-a-thy, homoeop-** /,həʊmiˌɒpəθi/ *n* [U] a system of medicine in which disease is treated by giving very small amounts of a substance which, in larger amounts, would usu. produce an illness similar to the disease. Homeopathy is a form of ALTERNATIVE MEDICINE and is not usu. practised by GPs in Britain. It is not usu. available under the National Health Service, so people must pay for treatment. — **thic** /,həʊmiəˌpæθɪk/ *adj* — **thically** /kli/ *adv*

**home-own-er** /'həʊmˌəʊnə/ *n* a person who owns their house or flat

**home plate** /'həʊm ˈpleɪt/ also **home, homebase** — *n* (in BASEBALL) the point over which a PITCHER must throw the ball for the hitter and the last point a runner must touch in order to make a RUN<sup>2</sup> (10) — see picture at BASEBALL

**ho-mer** /'həʊmə/ *n* *AmE infml* a HOME RUN

**homer**<sup>2</sup> *v* [I] *AmE infml* to hit a HOME RUN: *Rodriguez homered in the bottom of the sixth to bring the score to 5-all.*

**Ho-mer** a Greek poet who lived about 800 to 900 years before Christ, whose EPIC poems the *Iliad* and the *Odyssey* have had a great influence on Western literature

**Homer, Wins-low** /'wɪnzləʊ/ (1836–1910) an American artist, remembered for his WATERCOLOURS

**home room** /'həʊm ˈruːm/ *n* *AmE* a classroom where students have to go at the beginning of every school day

**home rule** /,həʊm ˈruːl/ *n* [U] **1** self-government by an area that was once politically dependent. This expression is sometimes used by Scots people instead of "DEVOLUTION" when speaking of independence for Scotland. **2 Home Rule** (in British use) self-government for Ireland, the aim of



Irish nationalists from around 1870 until 1921, when the Irish Free State was established

**home run** /,həʊ-/-/ also **homer** *infml*— *n* (in BASEBALL) a long hit which allows the hitter to run round the complete course and gain a point: *Until Hank Aaron came along, Babe Ruth had hit more home runs than any other player.*

**Home Sec-re-tar-y** /,həʊ-/-/ *n* the British government minister who is head of the Home Office. A similar minister in a foreign government is usu. called the Minister of the Interior.

**home-sick** /'həʊm,sɪk/ *adj* feeling a great wish to be at home, when one is away from it. People feel homesick because they miss their family and friends or places and customs that are familiar to them. — *~ness* *n* [U]

**home-spun** /'həʊmspʌn/ *adj* 1 (of cloth) woven or spun (SPIN<sup>1</sup> (2)) at home, esp. in former times 2 simple and ordinary in a way that is admired: *homespun philosophy*

**home-stead**<sup>1</sup> /'həʊmsted, -stɛd/ *n* 1 a house and its surrounding land, esp. a farm with its buildings 2 esp. *AmE* a piece of land given by the state (esp. in former times) on condition that the owner farms it

**homestead**<sup>2</sup> *v* [I;T] *AmE* to settle on (land) for a fixed period of time as a way of getting ownership of it: *My parents homesteaded some land in Alaska.* — *er* *n* : *homesteaders of the American West*

**home stretch** /,həʊ-/-/ *n* [the] 1 also **home straight** *BrE*— the last part of a race 2 the last part of an activity or journey

**home-town** /,həʊm'taʊn/ *n* the town where one was born and/or spent one's childhood

**home truth** /,həʊ-/-/ *n* [often *pl.*] a fact about someone which is unpleasant for them to know, but true: *She told him a few home truths about his selfishness.*

**home-ward** /'həʊmwəd/ *adj* [A] going towards home: *the homeward journey* — opposite **outward**

**home-wards** /'həʊmwədz/ *adj* || usu. **homeward** *AmE*— *adv* towards home

**home-work** /'həʊmwɜ:k/ *n* [U] 1 studies which must be done at home by students to help them to learn and prepare for what is studied at school 2 preparation done before taking part in an important activity: *The MP's speech showed she'd done her homework well.* — compare **HOUSEWORK**

**home-work-ing** /'həʊm,wɜ:kɪŋ/ *n* [U] working for a company from one's home instead of travelling to the company's offices every day

**hom-ey, homy** /'həʊmi/ *adj* *AmE infml* pleasant, like home — compare **HOMELY**

**hom-i-cid-al** /,hɒmɪ'saɪdl/ *adj* (of a person or character) likely to murder: *a homicidal maniac*

**hom-i-cide** /'hɒmɪsaɪd/ *n* *fml* or *law* 1 [C;U] (an act of) murder 2 [C] a murderer

**hom-i-ly** /'hɒmɪli/ *n* 1 usu. *derog* a long talk, which gives advice on how to behave 2 a **SERMON** (1)

**hom-ing** /'həʊmɪŋ/ *adj* [A] 1 of or having the ability, which is found in certain birds and animals, to find one's way home: *a homing pigeon* | *the homing instinct* 2 (of certain machines, esp. weapons) having the ability to guide themselves onto the place they are aimed at: *a missile equipped with a homing device*

**homing pi-geon** /'həʊ-/-/ *n* a **CARRIER PIGEON**

**hom-i-ny** /'hɒmɪni/ *n* [U] a sort of American corn, esp. when boiled — compare **GRITS**

**ho-mo** /'həʊməʊ/ *n* a Latin word used with other Latin words to describe different kinds of human or human-like animals: *Our species is called Homo Sapiens.*

**ho-moe-o-path** /'həʊmiə,pæθ/ *n* a **HOMEOPATH**

**ho-moe-op-athy** /,həʊmi'ɒpəθi/ *n* [U] **HOMEOPATHY**

**ho-mo-ge-ne-ous** /,həʊmə'dʒi:niəs/ also **ho-mog-e-nous** /hə'mɒdʒɪnəs/ *adj* formed of parts of the same kind; the same all through — compare **HETEROGENEOUS** — *~ly* *adv* — *~ity* /,həʊmədʒɪ'nɪ:zɪti/ *n* [U]

**ho-mo-ge-nize** also **-nise** *BrE* /hə'mɒdʒənaɪz/ *v* [T] to make (the parts of a whole, esp. a mixture) become evenly spread through the whole: *homogenized milk* (=in which there is no cream, because the fat is broken up all through the liquid)

**hom-o-graph** /'hɒməgrɑ:f, 'həʊ-||'hɑ:məgræf, 'həʊ-/ *n* a word that has the same spelling as another, but is different in meaning, origin, grammar, or pronunciation: *The noun "record" and the verb "record" are homographs (of each other).*

**hom-o-nym** /'hɒmənim, 'həʊ-||'hɑ:-, 'həʊ-/ *n* a word that has both the same sound and spelling as another, but is different in meaning or origin: *The noun "bear" and the verb "bear" are homonyms (of each other).*

**ho-mo-pho-bi-a** /,həʊmə'fəʊbiə, ,hɒ-||,həʊ-/ *n* [U] fear or hatred of homosexuality, expressed as violence against or unfairness in dealing with homosexuals and matters that concern them: *homophobia in the media* — **~bic** *adj*: *a homophobic attack*

**hom-o-phone** /'hɒməfəʊn, 'həʊ-||'hɑ:-, 'həʊ-/ *n* a word that sounds the same as another but is different in spelling, meaning, and origin: *"Knew" and "new" are homophones (of each other).*

**Ho-mo sa-pi-ens** /,həʊməʊ 'sæpienz/ *Lat* the human race; the type of human being now alive on the Earth (as opposed to earlier types)

**ho-mo-sex-u-al** /,həʊmə'sekʃʊəl, ,hɒ-||,həʊ-/ also **gay**— *adj, n* (of or being) a person who is sexually attracted to people of the same sex — compare **BISEXUAL**, **HETEROSEXUAL**, **LESBIAN**; see also **COME OUT** (7) — *~ity* /,həʊmə'sekʃʊ'ælɪti, ,hɒ-||,həʊ-/ *n* [U]

► **CULTURAL NOTE** In Britain, it was illegal in the past for men to have sex with each other. It is now legal in Britain between men aged over 21, but it is still illegal in the Isle of Man and in the Republic of Ireland. In the US, some states still have laws against homosexual actions, but in most states it is unlikely that these laws would be enforced (**ENFORCE**). While many homosexuals are more open about their sexuality, many people still do not find homosexuality acceptable. ◀

**hom-y** /'həʊmi/ *adj* *AmE infml* **HOMELY**

**hon** 1 /ɒn/ *abbrev. for*: **HONORARY**<sup>2</sup>: *the hon chairman* 2 /hʌn/ *AmE infml for* **HONEY**<sup>2</sup>: *"Hi, hon, I'm home."*

**Hon** *written abbrev. for*: **HONOURABLE**: *the Hon member for Liverpool West*

**hon-cho** /'hɒntʃəʊ/ *n* *AmE infml* the person in charge; the **BOSS**: *"Who's the head honcho here?"*

**Hon-da** /'hɒndə/ *n* *tdmk* a **MOTORCYCLE** or car made by the Japanese company Honda

**Hon-du-ras** /hɒn'dʒʊərəs/ *n* a country in Central America; capital Tegucigalpa; population 4,951,000 (1989). Honduras is important to the US because it is a friendly nation in an area in which many countries are against the US. — *ran* *n, adj*

**hone** /həʊn/ *v* [T] to sharpen (knives, swords, etc.)

**Hon-e-cker** /'hɒnəkər/ *n* **Er-ich** /'erɪk, -ɪx/ (1912– ) a former East German politician, and head of state of East Germany (1971–89)

**hon-est** /'ɒnɪst/ *adj* 1 (of a person) trustworthy; not likely to lie, cheat, or steal: *an honest politician/employee* — opposite **dishonest** 2 (of actions, appearance, etc.) typical of an honest person: *an honest face* | *honest dealings* 3 open and direct; not hiding facts; **FRANK**: *To be quite honest with you, I don't think you will pass.* | *Give me your honest opinion.* 4 **make an honest living** to earn one's pay fairly, without cheating, breaking the law, etc. 5 **make an honest woman of** *now usu. humor* to marry (a woman) after having a sexual relationship with her

**hon-est-ly** /'ɒnɪstli/ *adv* 1 in an honest way 2 a really; speaking truthfully: *I can't honestly say it matters to me.* | *I didn't tell anyone, honestly I didn't.* | *Quite honestly, I don't think his work is very good.* **b** (used for expressing strong feeling, usu. mixed with disapproval): *Honestly! What a stupid thing to do!*

**honest-to-good-ness** /,hɒnɪst-/-/ *adj* [A] *infml* **apprec** pure and simple; in a natural state; **STRAIGHTFORWARD**

**hon-es-ty** /'ɒnɪsti/ *n* [U] 1 the quality of being honest: *We've never doubted her honesty.* | *I must tell you, in all honesty (=being completely open and truthful), that your chances of passing the test are not very high.* — opposite **dishonesty** 2 **honesty is the best policy** saying it is better to be honest and tell people the truth

**hon-ey** /'hʌni/ *n* 1 [U] the sweet sticky usu. golden-brown



substance produced by bees, which can be eaten on bread and used in cooking **2** also **hon-ey-bunch** /'hʌnɪbʌntʃ/ || *esp. AmE* a (used when speaking to someone you love): *Gee, honey, that's a swell dress you've got on!* **b** (used informally as a friendly form of address, esp. by or to a woman) **3** [C] *infml, esp. AmE* something excellent: *That's a honey of a car!*

**hon-ey-bee** /'hʌnɪbiː/ *n* a bee which makes honey

**hon-ey-comb** /'hʌnɪkəʊm/ *n* **1** a container made by bees out of WAX and consisting of six-sided cells in which honey is stored —see picture at CELL **2** something like this in shape or pattern, such as an arrangement of bricks

**hon-ey-combed** /'hʌnɪkəʊmd/ *adj* [F (with)] filled with holes, hollow passages, etc.

**hon-ey-dew mel-on** /,hʌnɪdjuː 'melən/-duː-/ *n* a common type of MELON with a pale skin and flesh and a very sweet taste

**hon-eyed** /'hʌnɪd/ *adj* *lit* (of words) sweet and pleasing and often insincere

**hon-ey-moon**<sup>1</sup> /'hʌnɪmuːn/ *n* **1** the holiday taken by a man and woman who have just got married. They usu. leave for their honeymoon immediately after the RECEPTION which follows the wedding ceremony, and often do not tell anyone where they are going: *a honeymoon couple* | *the hotel's honeymoon suite* (=a specially comfortable set of rooms used by people on their honeymoon) **2** a short period of agreement, good relations, etc. at the beginning of a new piece of work, period of office, etc.: *The honeymoon is over — people are starting to criticize the new government.*

**honeymoon**<sup>2</sup> *v* [I+adv/prep] to have or spend one's honeymoon: *honeymooning in the Bahamas* — *~er n*

**hon-ey-pot** /'hʌnɪpɒt/-pɑːt/ *n* *infml* something, esp. the possibility of financial reward, which attracts a lot of people: *The North Sea oil industry has | Spring sales in London have always been a honeypot.*

**hon-ey-suck-le** /'hʌnɪsʌkəl/ *n* [C;U] a climbing plant with sweet-smelling yellow flowers

**Hong Kong** /,hɒn 'kɒŋ-||'hɑːŋ ,kɑːŋ/ **1** a COLONY of Britain in SE China which is an important financial and trade centre. Hong Kong will be given back to the People's Republic of China in 1997. **2** one of a number of islands in this COLONY

**Hon-i soit qui mal y pense** /,ɒni swɑː kɪz ,mæl ɪː 'pɒns||,ɑːn-, -'pɑːns/ *Fr* the MOTTO of the Order of the Garter. It means "let bad things happen to the person who thinks bad thoughts about others".

**honk**<sup>1</sup> /hɒŋk||hɑːŋk, hɔːŋk/ *n* **1** the sound a GOOSE makes **2** the sound made by a car horn

**honk**<sup>2</sup> *v* [I;T (at)] to (cause to) make a honk: *He honked his horn as he went past.*

**hon-ky, honkie** /'hɒŋki||'hɔːŋ-, 'hɑːŋ-/ *n* *AmE derog sl* a white person

**honky-tonk**<sup>1</sup> /'hɒŋki tɒŋk||'hɑːŋki tɑːŋk, 'hɔːŋki tɔːŋk/ *n* *AmE* a kind of bar esp. popular in the 1950s which featured country music, dancing, and drinking. Many COUNTRY AND WESTERN songs from this period are about honky-tonks.

**hon-ky-tonk**<sup>2</sup> *adj* [A] **1** of or used in a merry form of piano-playing: *a honky-tonk piano/pianist* **2** cheap and brightly coloured; lacking good taste: *a honky-tonk restaurant.* **3** of a honky-tonk: *a honky-tonk singer/man*

**Hon-o-lu-lu** /,hɒnə'lʊːlʊː||,hɑːn-/ the capital of Hawaii, a port and trade centre on the island of Oahu which also attracts many tourists —see colour map on pages 1374–5

**hon-or** *AmE* for HONOUR

**hon-or-a-ble** *AmE* for HONOURABLE

**hon-o-rar-i-um** /,ɒnə'reəriəm||,ɑːnə-/ *n* -iums or -ia /iə/ a sum of money offered for professional services, for which by custom the person does not ask to be paid

**hon-or-ar-y** /'ɒnərəri||'ɑːnərəri/ *adj* **1** (of a rank, a university degree, etc.) given as an honour, not according to the usual rules **2** holding an office or position without payment for one's services: *She's the honorary chairman.* — compare HONOURABLE

**hon-or-if-ic** /,ɒnə'rɪfɪk-||,ɑːnə-/ *adj, n* (a title or expression) which shows respect, esp. as used in Far Eastern languages — *~ally /kli/ adv*

**honor roll** /'..-./ *n* *AmE* a list of students who have achieved the highest marks (GRADES) in a school or college: *Are you on the honor roll this year?*

**hon-ors** *AmE* for HONOURS

**honor so-ci-e-ty** /'..-.,.../ *n* *AmE* an organization for the recognition of high ACADEMIC standards in students, either within a particular school or on a local or national level: *The honor society will meet after school on Thursday.*

**honor sys-tem** /'..-.,.../ *n* *AmE* a way of operating some activity in which people are trusted to be honest and obey rules, and no checks are made on them: *We run the coffee shop on an honor system: take what you want and leave the money in the box.*

**hon-our**<sup>1</sup> *BrE* || **honor** *AmE* /'ɒnə-||'ɑːnər/ *n* **1** [U] the great respect and admiration which people have for a person, country, etc., often publicly expressed: *to win honour on the field of battle* | *fighting for the honour of one's country* | *a party in honour of* (=to show respect to) *the visiting president* | *The queen was welcomed at the airport by a guard of honour.* (=special group of soldiers) **2** [U] high principles and standards of behaviour; nobleness of character: *a man of honour* | *It's a point of honour with me to repay all my debts promptly.* | *I give you my word of honour* (=I promise) *that I did not take the money.* **3** [S (to)] a person or thing that brings great pride and pleasure: *He's an honour to the school.* | *It's a great honour to have the Queen here today.* | (*polite or fml*) *Will you do me the honour of dancing with me?* **4** [U] now usu. *humor* the CHASTITY of a woman (esp. in the phrase *lose one's honour*) **5** (in) **honour bound** forced by one's standards of good behaviour: *I feel (in) honour bound to repay the money I borrowed.* **6** **on one's honour** on trust; being trusted to behave rightly: *He was on his honour not to tell the secret.* —see also HONOURS, MAID OF HONOUR

**honour**<sup>2</sup> *BrE* || **honor** *AmE* — *v* [T] **1** *esp. fml or pomp* to show or bring honour to: *We're deeply honoured that you should agree to join us.* | *Today the Queen honoured us with/by her presence.* **2** to keep (an agreement), often by making a payment: *The bank has refused to honour his cheque.* | *Please honour your agreement/contract by working until the project is finished.*

**Honour** *BrE* || **Honor** *AmE* — *n* (used as a title for a judge): *His Honour Judge Sachs* | *Good morning, Your Honour.*

**hon-our-a-ble** *BrE* || **honorable** *AmE* /'ɒnərəbəl||'ɑːn-/ *adj* **1** bringing or deserving honour: *honourable deeds* | *an honourable settlement of the dispute* **2** showing high principles and good character —compare HONORARY —*bly adv*

**Honourable** (*written abbrev. Hon*) *adj* [A] (a title given to the children of certain British nobles and to certain high officials, including Members of Parliament when talking to one another in the House of Commons): *Will the Honourable member please answer the question?* | *the Honourable Glencora Smith-Fortescue*

**honourable men-tion** /,.....'..-/ *n* [C;U] a special mark of honour in a competition or show, given for work of high quality that has not actually won a prize

**hon-ours** *BrE* || **honors** *AmE* /'ɒnəz||'ɑːnəz/ *n* [P] **1** marks of respect: *buried with (full) military honours* (=a special ceremony which soldiers attend in their best uniforms) **2** a level gained in an honours degree: *She graduated with first-class honours.* | *with high honours* —compare CUM LAUDE **3** *BrE* the highest playing cards in a game **4** **do the honours** *infml* to act as the host or hostess, e.g. by offering drinks, introducing people, etc.

**honours de-gree** /'..-.,.../ *n* a specialized British university UNDERGRADUATE degree: *What class of honours degree did she graduate with?*

**honours list** /'..-.,.../ *n* [*the*] (in Britain) a list of important people to whom titles are to be given as a sign of respect. The honours list is produced each year by the Prime Minister but the titles are actually given by the Queen in a special ceremony: *He got a peerage* (=became a Lord) *in the New Year's honours list.*

**Hon-shu** /'hɒnfʊː||'hɑːn-/ the largest of the four main islands of Japan. Most of Japan's largest cities are on Honshu.

**hooch, hootch** /huːtʃ/ *n* [U] *AmE sl* strong alcoholic drink, esp. WHISKY, esp. that which is made illegally



**hood** /hʊd/ *n* 1 a covering for the whole of the head and neck **a** except the face, usu. fastened on at the back to a coat, etc., so that it can be pushed back when not needed **b** including the face, worn by criminals to avoid recognition 2 something that covers or fits over the top of something else, such as **a** a covering over a cooker to draw cooking smells out of the room **b** a folding cover over a car, PRAM, etc. —see picture at PRAM 3 *AmE* the BONNET (2) covering the engine of a car —see picture at CAR and at ENGINE 4 *sl* a hoodlum

**Hood, Robin** see ROBIN HOOD

**hood-ed** /'hʊdɪd/ *adj* covered with or wearing a hood

**hood-lum** /'hʊdləm/ *n sl* a violent and/or criminal person

**hoo-doo** /'hʊdʊ:/ *n -doo* [(on)] *infml, esp. AmE* a person or thing that brings bad luck

**hood-wink** /'hʊd,wɪŋk/ *v* [T (into)] to trick or deceive

**hoo-ey** /'hʊzi/ *n* [U] *AmE sl* stupid talk; NONSENSE

**hoof** /hʊ:f||hʊf/ *n* **hoofs** or **hooves** /hʊ:vz||hʊfs/ 1 the hard foot of certain animals, e.g. the horse —see picture at HORSE 2 **on the hoof** (of an animal kept for its meat) before being killed for meat; still alive

**hoof-er** /'hʊ:fə/ *n AmE sl* a dancer, esp. one who TAP DANCES

**hoo-ha** /'hʊz hɑ:/ *n* [U] *esp. BrE infml* noisy talk about something unimportant; FUSS

## hooks



picture hook



fish hook



coat hook

**hook**<sup>1</sup> /hʊk/ *n* 1 a curved piece of metal or plastic used **a** for hanging things on: *Hang your coat on the hook.* **b** for catching fish: *a fish hook* **c** with an EYE<sup>1</sup> (6) for fastening clothing —see picture at FASTENER 2 **a** (in cricket, GOLF, etc.) a stroke which sends the ball away from a straight course towards the side of the player's weaker hand **b** (in BOXING) a blow given with the elbow bent: *a left/right hook* 3 the part on which a telephone RECEIVER rests or is hung: *They took/left the phone off the hook so no calls would disturb them.* 4 **by hook or by crook** *infml* by any means possible, perhaps including dishonest or illegal means 5 **hook, line, and sinker** *infml* (with expressions of belief) completely: *She swallowed the whole unlikely story hook, line, and sinker.* 6 **off the hook** *infml* no longer in a position of difficulty: *The barman has told the police that Jane was in the bar at the time of the bank robbery, so that lets her off the hook.* —see also BILLHOOK, BOAT HOOK, sling one's hook (SLING)

**hook**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T] 1 to catch with a hook: *to hook a fish* 2 [+obj+adv/prep] to hang on or fasten (as if) with a hook: *Hook the rope over that nail.* 3 to hit (a ball) with a hook stroke

**hook** sthg. ↔ **up** *phr v* [T (to) often pass.] to connect to a power supply or central system: *The BBC is hooked up by satellite to the American network in order to broadcast the President's speech.*

**Hook, Captain** see CAPTAIN HOOK

**hook-ah** /'hʊkə/ also **water pipe**— *n* a tobacco pipe whose smoke is drawn through water by a long tube before reaching the mouth

**hook and lad-der** /, . . 'lɒ/ *n AmE* a FIRE ENGINE with long ladders fixed to it

**hooked** /hʊkt/ *adj* 1 shaped like a hook: *a hooked nose* 2 having one or more hooks 3 [F (on)] *infml* a dependent (on drugs); ADDICTED **b** having a great liking for and very frequently using, doing, eating, etc.: *hooked on jogging*

**hook-er** /'hʊkə/ *n sl, esp. AmE* for PROSTITUTE

**hook-nosed** /, . 'nɒs/ *adj* having a nose that curves outwards and downwards to a point

**Hook of Hol-land** /, . 'lɒnd/ [the] a port on the SW coast of the Netherlands. The Dutch name is **Hoek van Holland**.

**hook-up** /' . -/ *n* a temporary connection between things, usu. for the purpose of moving power, FUEL, or informa-

tion from one to the other: *a satellite hook-up to televise the Barcelona Olympics* | *We need a campground with a gas hook-up for our camper.*

**hook-worm** /'hʊkwɜ:m||-wɜ:rm/ *n* 1 [C] a worm which lives in the INTESTINES of humans or animals 2 [U] the disease caused by this worm

**hook-y, hookey** /'hʊki/ *n* **play hooky** to stay away from school without permission; play TRUANT

**hoo-li-gan** /'hʊ:lɪgən/ *n* a noisy rough person who causes trouble by fighting, breaking things, etc. In Britain, people who are noisy and violent at football matches are called football hooligans. — ~ism *n* [U]

**hoop** /hʊ:p||hʊp, hʊ:p/ *n* 1 a circular band of wood or metal round a barrel 2 a similar circular band, such as one used **a** as a child's toy **b** (formerly) to hold women's skirts out **c** for animals to jump through at the CIRCUS 3 a metal arch through which the ball is driven in CROQUET 4 **put/go through the hoop(s)** to (cause someone to) go through a difficult test

**hoop-la** /'hʊ:p lɑ:||'hʊ:p-, 'hʊp-/ *n* [U] 1 *BrE* a game in which prizes are won when a ring is thrown right over them 2 *esp. AmE* noise and excitement intended to attract attention, and also perhaps deceive, and sometimes used as an advertisement for whatever is happening: *BALLYHOO: the hoop-la of a circus coming to town.*

**hoop-ster** /'hʊ:pstə/ *n AmE sl* a BASKETBALL player: *One of the best hoopsters of all time.*

**hoo-ray** /hʊ'reɪ, hʊ:'reɪ-| *interj, n* HURRAY

**Hooray Hen-ry** /, . . 'hʊreɪ, , . . 'hʊreɪ/ *n BrE usu.* humor an upper-class man who makes a noisy show of enjoying himself and is considered to be a fool by most other people

**hoo-se-gow** /'hʊ:sgəʊ/ *n AmE sl* a prison: *He'll be up in the hoosegow for years.*

**hoot**<sup>1</sup> /hʊ:t/ *n* 1 [C] the sound an OWL makes 2 [C] the sound made by a car's or ship's horn 3 [C] a shout of disapproval, unpleasant laughter, etc.: *a speech that was greeted with loud hoots/with hoots of derision* 4 [S] *infml* something very amusing: *That play was an absolute hoot.* 5 **not care/give a hoot/two hoots** *infml* not to care at all: *He doesn't care two hoots what people think.*

**hoot**<sup>2</sup> *v* [I;T (at)] 1 to (cause to) make a hoot: *I could hear an owl hooting.* | *She hooted at me with her horn/hooted her horn at me.* 2 *infml* to laugh loudly (at), esp. to show disrespect or disapproval: *The audience hooted with derision.* | *They hooted him off the stage.* (=made him leave by hooting)

**hoot-en-an-ny** /'hʊ:tn-æni/ *n AmE* an informal concert usu. of FOLK MUSIC at which anyone can sing or play an instrument: *The Glacier Hotel has a hootenanny every Tuesday night.*

**hooter** /'hʊ:tə/ *n* 1 *esp. BrE* something that makes a hooting sound, such as a car horn or a horn or whistle that signals the beginning or end of work 2 *BrE sl* the nose. This word is used esp. to talk about a large nose with amusement or disrespect.

**hoo-ver**<sup>1</sup> /'hʊ:və/ *n tdmk (often cap.)* (a type of) VACUUM CLEANER

**hoover**<sup>2</sup> *v* [I;T] *BrE* to clean with a VACUUM CLEANER

**Hoover, Herbert Clark** (1874–1964) the president of the US (1929–33). Hoover was president during the first years of the Great DEPRESSION.

**Hoover, J. Ed-gar** /dʒeɪ 'edgə/ (1895–1972) the most important director of the FBI who held that position from 1924 until his death. Hoover was respected for his improvement of the FBI, but after his death it was learned that the FBI kept information about many people and groups that it should not have had, and many people felt that Hoover had had too much power.

**Hoover Dam** /, . . 'lɒ/ also **Boulder Dam** [the] a DAM on the COLORADO RIVER in the SW US which supplies electricity and water to several states. It is one of the highest dams in the world. —see colour map on pages 1374–5

**hooves** /hʊ:vz||hʊfs/ *pl. of* HOOF

**hop**<sup>1</sup> /hɒp||hɑ:p/ *v -pp-* 1 [I] **a** (of people) to jump on one leg **b** [+adv/prep] (of small animals, birds, etc.) to jump: *The bird hopped onto my finger.* 2 [T] to cross by hopping 3 [I+adv/prep] *infml* to get onto/into or off/out of a vehicle: *Hop in and I'll drive you to the station.* | *We hopped onto the bus while it was still moving.* 4 [T] *esp.*



*AmE infml* to make a trip, esp. a short one or on a plane: *They hopped a plane for Los Angeles.* | *He's hopped up to New York for the day.* **5 Hop it!** *BrE sl* Go away! **6 hopping mad** *infml* very angry

**hop<sup>2</sup> n** **1** an act of hopping; a jump **2** *old-fash infml* a dance at which popular music is played **3** *infml* a distance travelled by a plane before landing: *It's only a short hop from London to Paris.* **4 on the hop** *infml* unprepared; without warning: *I'm afraid your order has caught us on the hop — the goods aren't available yet.*

**hop<sup>3</sup> n** **1** a tall climbing plant with flowers **2** [*usu. pl.*] the seed-cases of this plant, esp. when dried and used for giving taste to beer

**hope<sup>1</sup> /həʊp/ v** [*I (for); T obj*] **1** to wish and expect; want (something) to happen and have some confidence that it will happen: *We're hoping for a big order from the Middle East.* [+to-v] *She hopes to go to university next year.* [+*(that)*] *I hope you'll come and see us when you're in London.* | *We hope and pray that she will recover.* | "Will he come back?" "I sincerely hope so/not." | *The hoped-for improvement in trade has still not happened.* **2 hope against hope** to continue to hope when there is little chance of success **3 hope for the best** to trust that things will go well, esp. when a rather risky or unsatisfactory arrangement has been made: *You don't need to make the soup carefully; just mix everything together and hope for the best.*

▷ **USAGE** Compare **hope** and **wish**. You **hope** for things that are possible, but **wish** for things that you think are impossible or unlikely: *I hope you pass your exam.* (=I think it is possible) | *I hope you will help me.* (=I want you to, and I think you can) | *I wish I were 20 years younger.* (=but that is impossible) | *I wish you would help me.* (=I want you to, but it seems unlikely judging by your behaviour so far) —see also **EXPECT** (**USAGE**)<

**hope<sup>2</sup> n** **1** [*C;U (of)*] the expectation that something will happen as one wishes: *The situation looks bad, but don't give up hope.* | *Hopes of (reaching) a peace settlement are now fading.* [+*that*] *Is there any hope that she'll recover?* | *We've postponed the game until Monday in the hope that (=hoping that) the weather will improve.* | *The doctors don't hold out much hope for her.* | *We're pinning all our hopes on the new manager.* (=all our hopes depend on him/her) | *Things look bad but we live in hope.* (=we haven't given up hoping yet) | *The one glimmer/ray of hope is the possibility that the government will provide emergency assistance.* | *Her hopes were dashed* (=destroyed) *when she failed the exam.* **2** [*C*] a person or thing that seems likely to bring success: *You're my last hope.* | *They're our only hope.* **3 beyond/past hope** beyond the possibility of a good result —see also **WHITE HOPE** **4 hope springs eternal in the human breast** *quote* a phrase from a work by Alexander Pope, meaning that people will by nature always feel hopeful about things

▷ **USAGE** Compare *I have no wish to go* (=I don't want to go) and *I have no hope of going* (=I want to go but I know I can't).<

**Hope, Anthony** (1863–1933) an English writer, known esp. for his **NOVEL** *The Prisoner of Zenda*

**Hope, Bob** (1903– ) an American actor and **COMEDIAN** born in England, who was a star of many amusing films. In the US, Bob Hope is also known for the kind of humour he uses, the **ONE-LINER** (a very short joke), and for entertaining soldiers during wartime.

**hope chest** /'həʊp tʃest/ *n* *AmE* for **BOTTOM DRAWER**

**hope-ful<sup>1</sup> /'həʊpfəl/ adj** **1** [(of)] (of people) feeling hope: *hopeful of success* [+*that*] *I'm hopeful that he'll arrive early.* **2** giving cause for hope of success: *hopeful signs of economic recovery* — **ness** *n* [*U*]

**hopeful<sup>2</sup> n** a person who wants to succeed or seems likely to succeed, esp. in the performing arts: *The audition was attended by scores of young hopefuls.*

**hope-ful-ly /'həʊpfəli/ adv** **1** in a hopeful way: *The little boy looked at her hopefully as she handed out the sweets.* **2** if our hopes succeed: *Hopefully we'll be there by dinnertime.*

▷ **USAGE** This second meaning of **hopefully** is now very common, especially in speech, but it is thought by some people to be incorrect.<

**hope-less /'həʊpləs/ adj** **1** showing lack of hope: *hopeless*

*tears* **2** giving no cause for hope: *Our position is hopeless; we'll never get out alive.* | *a hopeless case* **3** *infml* very bad or unskilled: *I'm hopeless at maths.* — **ly** *adv* — **ness** *n* [*U*]

**Hop-i /'həʊpi/ [C; the +P]** (a member of) a Native American people from Arizona, US —see **NATIVE AMERICAN (CULTURAL NOTE)**

**Hop-kins /'hɒpkɪnz || 'hɑ:p-/**, **Anthony** (1937– ) a Welsh actor known for his many roles on the stage and in films

**Hopkins, Ger-ard Man-ley /'dʒerəd 'mænli||dʒə'rɑ:rd-/** (1844–89) an English poet who was also a priest. Many of his poems deal with **SPIRITUAL** or religious ideas.

**Hop o' My Thumb /'hɒp o' 'mi thumb/** also **Little Thumb**— the title of a French **FAIRY STORY** in which Hop o' my Thumb, the youngest of seven children, protects his brothers and sisters after their parents leave them in the forest because they have no more money. He steals an **OGRE's** magic boots and uses them to make money which he gives to his parents.

**hop-per /'hɒpəʔ || 'hɑ:z-/ n** a large **FUNNEL** through which grain or coal is passed

**Hopper, Edward** (1882–1967) an American painter

**hop-scotch /'hɒpskɒtʃ || 'hɑ:p-skɑ:tʃ/ n** [*U*] a children's game in which a stone is thrown onto numbered squares and each child **HOPS** and jumps from one to another. The game is *usu.* played in the school yard or street, where squares are drawn with **CHALK**.

**hop, step, and jump /'hɒp, 'step, ənd 'dʒʌmp/ n** [*the*] *infml* for **TRIPLE JUMP**

**Hor-ace /'hɒrəs || 'hɔ:z-/** (65–8 BC) a Roman poet and writer of **SATIRE**, whose Latin name was Quintus Horatius Flaccus

**horde /hɔ:d || hɔ:rd/ n** also **hordes** *pl.*— [(of)] a large moving crowd, esp. one that is noisy or disorderly: *a horde of children* | *Hordes of children were running round the building.*

**ho-ri-zon /hə'reɪzən/ n** **1** [*the*] the limit of one's view across the surface of the earth, where the sky seems to meet the earth or sea: *We could see a ship on the horizon.* | *The setting sun disappeared below the horizon.* | (fig.) *Business is good at the moment, but there are one or two problems on the horizon.* (=that can be expected in the future) **2** [*C*] also **horizons** *pl.*— the limit of one's ideas, knowledge, or experience: *This series of talks is intended to broaden our horizons.*

**hor-i-zon-tal /'hɒrɪ'zɒntl || 'hɑ:rɪ'zɑ:ntl/ adj** in a flat position, along or parallel to level ground; level with the horizon: *a horizontal line/surface* —compare **VERTICAL** — **ly** *adv*

**horizontal<sup>2</sup> n** *esp. tech* [*C;(the) U*] a horizontal line, surface, or position

**Hor-licks /'hɔ:liks || 'hɔ:r-/ n** [*P*] *tdmk* a type of hot milky drink produced by SmithKline Beecham; it is prepared by mixing powder with hot milk or water and it is *usu.* drunk in the evening before going to bed

**hor-mone /'hɔ:məʊn || 'hɔ:r-/ n** any of several substances directed from organs of the body into the blood so as to influence growth, development, etc.

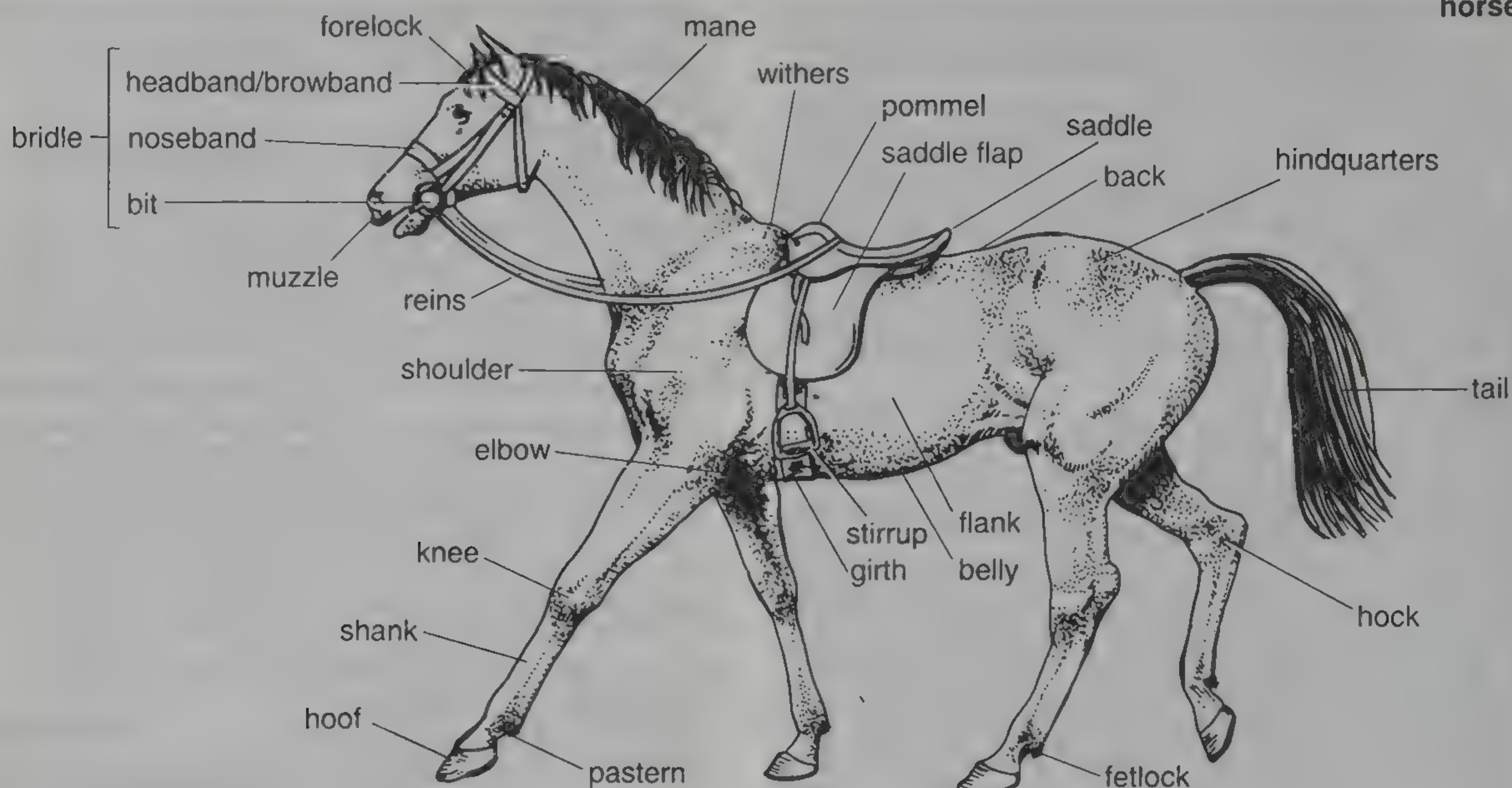
**hormone re-place-ment ther-a-py /'hɔ:məʊn rɪ'plɑ:smənt θerə'pi/** also *abbrev.* **HRT**— *n* [*U*] treatment given to some middle-aged women to help control certain unwanted effects of the **MENOPAUSE**. These women are given small quantities of female sex hormones

**horn<sup>1</sup> /hɔ:n || hɔ:rn/ n** **1** [*C*] a hard pointed part that grows, *usu.* as one of a pair, on the heads of cattle, sheep, goats, and some wild animals **2** [*C*] something which stands out from an animal's head like a horn, e.g. on a **SNAIL** —see picture at **DEER** **3** [*U*] the substance that horns are made of: *The knife has a horn handle.* **4** [*C*] (often in *comb.*) something, esp. a container, originally made from a horn: *a drinking horn* (=a container for drinking from) **5** [*C*] a any of a number of musical instruments consisting of a long metal tube, *usu.* bent several times and played by blowing: *a hunting horn* —see also **ENGLISH**

hopscotch







**HORN**, **FRENCH HORN**, **POST HORN** **b** *infml* any of the larger **WIND INSTRUMENTS**, esp. a **TRUMPET** **6** [C] an apparatus, e.g. in a car, which makes a loud usu. short warning sound: *The driver blew/sounded her horn when the child stepped in front of the car.* | *a ship's foghorn* —compare **SIREN**, and see picture at **CAR** **7** **draw in/pull in one's horns** to reduce the amount of one's activities, spending, etc. **8** **on the horns of a dilemma** having to choose between two unpleasant things or courses of action —see also **ENGLISH HORN**, **FRENCH HORN**, **blow one's own trumpet/horn** (**BLOW**<sup>1</sup>), **take the bull by the horns** (**BULL**<sup>1</sup>), **lock horns** (**LOCK**<sup>2</sup>) —**horned** /hɔːnd||hɔːrnd/ *adj*: *horned cattle*

## horn<sup>2</sup>

**horn in** *phr v* [(on)] to interrupt or come in where one is not wanted: *He horned in on our conversation.* | *She's always horning in though it's none of her business.*

**Horn** [*the*] see **CAPE HORN**

**horn-bill** /'hɔːnbɪl||'hɔːrn-/ *n* a bird with a horn-like growth on its beak

**Horn-blow-er** /'hɔːnbləʊə||'hɔːrn-/ **Ho-ra-ti-o** /hə'reɪʃiə/ an officer in the British navy, the chief character in the *Hornblower* stories by C S Forester

**horn-book** /'hɔːnbʊk||'hɔːrn-/ *n* **AmE** **1** a piece of paper with the alphabet or numbers on it and covered with a thin sheet of horn, used formerly to teach children **2** *rare* any first schoolbook teaching a child letters or numbers

**hor-net** /'hɔːnɪt||'hɔːr-/ *n* a large insect which can sting, related to the **WASP** —see picture at **WASP**

**hornet's nest** /'hɔːnɪt||'hɔːr-/ *n* [*usu. sing.*] a lot of trouble and anger between people (esp. in the phrase **stir up a hornet's nest**)

**Horn of Af-ri-ca** /'hɔːnəf'riːkə/ [*the*] the part of E Africa that includes Somalia and some of Ethiopia

**horn of plen-ty** /'hɔːnpɪnˈti/ *n* a **CORNUCOPIA**

**horn-pipe** /'hɔːnpaɪp||'hɔːrn-/ *n* **1** a dance performed esp. by sailors **2** the music for this dance

**horn-rimmed** /'hɔːnrɪmɪd/ *adj* (of glasses for the eyes) surrounded by an edge made of horn or a similar material

**horn-y** /'hɔːni||'hɔːrni/ *adj* **1** hard and rough: *The old gardener had horny hands.* **2** *taboo sl* sexually excited

**hor-o-scope** /'hɔːrəskəʊp||'hɔːz-, 'hɔː-/ *n* a written or spoken description of someone's character, life, and future, which is gained by knowing the positions of the stars or **PLANETS** at the time of his/her birth and the effects these are said to have. Many people in Britain and the US read their horoscope each day in the paper, but few really believe it is true —see also **ZODIAC**

**Hor-o-witz** /'hɔːrəvɪts, -wɪts||'hɔːrəwɪts/, **Vlad-i-mir** /'vlædɪ-

miə|| (1904–89) an American piano player born in Russia who played **CLASSICAL** music

**hor-ren-dous** /hɔː'rendəs, hə-||hɔː-, hɔː-/ *adj* **1** really terrible; causing great fear **2** *infml* extremely unpleasant: *What horrendous weather!* —*~ly adv* —*~ness n* [U]

**hor-ri-ble** /'hɔːrɪbəl||'hɔː-, 'hɔː-/ *adj* **1** terrible: *a horrible accident* **2** *infml* very unkind or unpleasant; **AWFUL**: *What a horrible dress!* | *a horrible man* | *I have a horrible feeling we're going to miss the plane.* —*bly adv*

**hor-rid** /'hɔːrɪd||'hɔː-, 'hɔː-/ *adj* [(to)] esp. **BrE** very unkind or unpleasant; nasty: *Don't be horrid (to me)!* —*~ly adv* —*~ness n* [U]

**hor-rif-ic** /hɔː'rɪfɪk, hə-||hɔː-, hɔː-/ *adj* causing or intended to cause horror; horrifying: *The film showed the most horrific murder scenes.* —*~ally* /kli/ *adv*

**hor-ri-fy** /'hɔːrɪfaɪ||'hɔː-, 'hɔː-/ *v* [T] to shock greatly; fill with horror: *We were horrified to hear that she had been murdered.* | *horrifying news* —*~ingly adv*

**hor-ror** /'hɔːrə||'hɔː-, 'hɔː-/ *n* **1** [U] a feeling of great shock, anxiety, and dislike: *The news of the plane crash filled us with horror.* | *I cried out in horror as I saw him fall in front of the car.* **2** [C *usu. pl.*; U] (an event, activity, etc. that has) the quality of causing this feeling: *It's hard to describe the horror of their lives.* | *the horrors of modern warfare* **3** [C] esp. **BrE** an unpleasant person, usu. a child: *The little horror never stops playing tricks on his parents.* **4** **have a horror of** to hate; dislike very much: *I have a horror of snakes.* **5** **the horrors** *infml* a state of extreme fear, worry, or sadness —compare **TERROR**

**horror film** /'hɔːrəfɪlm/ *n* a cinema film in which frightening and often unnatural things happen, such as dead people coming to life, people turning into animals, etc.

**horror-strick-en** /'hɔːrəstrɪkən/ also **horror-struck** /'hɔːrəstrʌk/ *adj* filled with horror; deeply shocked: *We were horror-stricken to hear of her murder.*

**hors de com-bat** /'hɔːz də 'kɒmbat||'hɔːz də 'kɑːmbat/ *adj, adv* [F] *Fr* unable to fight, because wounded: (fig.) *Their best player is hors de combat with a knee injury.*

**hors d'oeu-vre** /'hɔːz d'œv||'hɔːz d'ɔːrv/ *n* **-d'œuvres** /'dɔːrv||'dɔːrvz/ **SAVOURY** food served in small amounts at the beginning of a meal instead of soup or another starter

**horse**<sup>1</sup> /hɔːs||hɔːrs/ *n* **1** [C] a large strong four-legged animal with hard feet (**HOOVES**), which people ride on and use for pulling heavy things: *learning to ride a horse* | *A male horse is called a stallion, and a female horse is a mare.* | *We went to see the horse races.* —see **BICYCLE** (**USAGE**); see also **FOAL**, **NEIGH** **2** [C] an exercise apparatus for jumping over; **VAULTING HORSE** **3** [P] *old use, esp. BrE* soldiers riding on horses; **CAVALRY**: *a regiment of horse* **4** [U] *sl* for **HEROIN** **5** **a horse! a horse! my kingdom for a horse!** *quote* a phrase from Shakespeare's play *Richard III*, said by the King when he needs a horse very



badly and now often used humorously when someone needs something badly **6 a horse of another/a different colour** a completely different thing or situation **7 (straight) from the horse's mouth** *infml* (of information) from the actual person concerned, not told indirectly —see also CLOTHESHORSE, DARK HORSE, GIFT HORSE, HIGH HORSE, TROJAN HORSE, WHITE HORSE, **put the cart before the horse** (CART<sup>1</sup>), **flog a dead horse** (FLOG), **Hold your horses!** (HOLD<sup>1</sup> (28))

## horse<sup>2</sup> v

**horse around/about** *phr v* [I] *infml* to play roughly or waste time in rough play

**horse-back**<sup>1</sup> /'hɔ:sbæk/ || 'hɔ:rs-/ *n* on horseback (riding) on a horse: *Police on horseback broke up the demonstration.*

**horseback**<sup>2</sup> *adj, adv* [A] *esp. AmE* on the back of a horse: *horseback riding*

**horse-box** /'hɔ:sbɒks/ || 'hɔ:rsbɒks/ || *usu. horse car, horse trailer* *AmE*— *n* a large enclosed container that is fixed to or pulled by a motor vehicle, used for carrying horses from one place to another

**horse chest-nut** /'hɔ:sfɛʃt/ || 'hɔ:rs-/ || also **chestnut**— *n* **1** a large tree with white or pink flowers **2** a shiny brown nut from this tree —see also CONKER, and see picture at TREE

**horse-flesh** /'hɔ:sfɛʃ/ || 'hɔ:rs-/ *n* [U] *sl* horses generally, *esp.* with regard to their fitness for racing. This word is *usu.* used by people with a professional interest in racing: *a good judge of horseflesh*

**horse-fly** /'hɔ:sflaɪ/ || 'hɔ:rs-/ *n* a large fly that stings horses and cattle

**Horse Guards** /'hɔ:gs/ [the +P] the ROYAL HORSE GUARDS

**Horse Guards Pa-rade** /'hɔ:gs pa:reɪd/ a wide square in central London used for public shows by the Horse Guards and other British army units

**horse-hair** /'hɔ:shaɪ/ || 'hɔ:rs-/ *n* [U] the long hair from a horse, *esp.* from the MANE and tail, *esp.* when used to fill the inside of furniture

**horse-laugh** /'hɔ:s-lɑ:f/ || 'hɔ:rs-læf/ *n* a loud (impolite) laugh

**horse-man** /'hɔ:smən/ || 'hɔ:rs-/ **horsecwoman** *fem.*— *n* -men /mən/ a person who rides a horse, *esp.* skilfully

**horse-man-ship** /'hɔ:smənʃɪp/ || 'hɔ:rs-/ *n* [U] the practice or skill of horse-riding

**Horse of the Year Show** /'hɔ:səvɪtʃ/ [the] a SHOW JUMPING competition held every year in London

**horse op-e-ra** /'hɔ:səpə/ *n* *humor, esp. AmE* for WESTERN<sup>2</sup> —compare SOAP OPERA

**horse-play** /'hɔ:spleɪ/ || 'hɔ:rs-/ *n* [U] rough noisy behaviour, *usu.* in fun

**horse-pow-er** /'hɔ:spaʊə/ || 'hɔ:rs-/ (*abbrev. HP*)— *n* **horsepower** [C;U] (a measure of) the power of an engine: *This car has a 40 horsepower engine.*

**horse rac-ing** /'hɔ:sræɪŋ/ *n* [U] the running of races between horses ridden by JOCKEYS. Horse racing is a popular sport in Britain and the US, and while very few people own racehorses, many people are interested in the races and risk money on the horse which they think will win a race.

**horse-rad-ish** /'hɔ:srædɪʃ/ || 'hɔ:rs-/ *n* [U] a plant whose root is used to make a strong-tasting SAUCE (**horseradish sauce**) which is eaten with meat, *esp.* with ROAST BEEF

**horse sense** /'hɔ:sens/ *n* [U] *infml* for COMMON SENSE

**horse-shit** /'hɔ:sʃɪt/ || 'hɔ:rs-/ *n* [U] *taboo sl, esp. AmE* nonsense; BULLSHIT

**horse-shoe** /'hɔ:fʃu:z/ || 'hɔ:s- || 'hɔ:r-/ *n* **1** also **shoe**— a curved piece of iron nailed on under a horse's foot **2** something in the shape of a horseshoe, such as a decorative card given at weddings to bring good luck

**horse-shoes** /'hɔ:fʃu:z/ || 'hɔ:s- || 'hɔ:r-/ *n* [U] an American outdoor game in which one throws horseshoes at a fixed marker

**horse-trad-ing** /'hɔ:stɹædɪŋ/ *n* [U] the process by which two sides try to reach agreement with each other, *e.g.* about prices, the details of a contract, etc.: *Each side got what it wanted by clever political horse-trading.*

**horse trailer** /'hɔ:stɹeɪlɪə/ *n* *AmE* for HORSEBOX

**horse-whip** /'hɔ:sweɪp/ || 'hɔ:rs-/ *v* -pp- [T] to beat (someone) hard, *esp.* with a whip for a horse

**horse-wom-an** /'hɔ:s,wʊmən/ || 'hɔ:rs-/ *n* -women /,wɪmɪn/

a woman who rides a horse, *esp.* skilfully

**hors-y, horsey** /'hɔ:si/ || 'hɔ:rsi/ *adj* **1** *BrE* (*esp.* of a woman, often one of high social class) interested in horses, fond of riding, etc. **2** *usu. derog* of an appearance which reminds one of horses —**iness** *n* [U]

**hor-ti-cul-ture** /'hɔ:tɪkʌltʃə/ || 'hɔ:r-/ *n* [U] the practice or science of growing fruit, flowers, and vegetables —compare AGRICULTURE —**tural** /,hɔ:tɪkʌltʃərəl/ || 'hɔ:r-/ *adj* —**turalist** *n*

**ho-san-na** /həʊ'zænə/ *n, interj bibl* a shout of praise to God

**hose**<sup>1</sup> /həʊz/ || also **hose-pipe** /'həʊzpaɪp/ *BrE*— *n* [C;U] (a piece of) rubber or plastic tube which can be moved and bent to direct water onto fires, gardens, etc.

► **CULTURAL NOTE** In many parts of Britain, during long periods without rain, there is a **hosepipe ban** i.e. people are not allowed to use their hoses because the water is needed for other purposes. In the US, people are asked to save water during periods of DROUGHT in many different ways but are not prevented from using their hoses. —see picture at GARDEN ◀

**hose**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T (DOWN)] to use a hose on, *esp.* for washing: *hosing the car down* | *to hose the garden*

**hose**<sup>3</sup> *n* [U] **1** (used *esp.* in shops) TIGHTS, STOCKINGS, or socks **2** tight-fitting leg coverings worn by men in former times

**ho-sier** /'həʊziə/ || 'həʊzəri/ *n* *old-fash or tech* a shopkeeper who sells socks and men's underclothes

**ho-sier-y** /'həʊzjəri/ || 'həʊzəri/ *n* [U] *old-fash or tech* TIGHTS, STOCKINGS, and socks in general

**hos-pice** /'hɒspɪs/ || 'hɑ:-/ *n* **1** a house for travellers to stay and rest in, *esp.* when kept by a religious group **2** a hospital for people with incurable illnesses

**hos-pi-ta-ble** /'hɒspɪtəbəl, hɒ'spɪ- || 'hɑ:'spɪ-, 'hɑ:spɪ-/ *adj* [(to, towards)] (of people or their behaviour) friendly and welcoming towards guests or visitors, *esp.* by feeding them, inviting them into one's home, etc.: *Americans have the reputation of being very hospitable people.* —opposite **inhospitable** —**bly** *adv*

**hos-pi-tal** /'hɒspɪtl/ || 'hɑ:-/ *n* [C; (*esp. BrE*) U] a place where people who are ill or hurt have medical treatment. In Britain hospital treatment is free for anyone who does not choose to pay for private medical insurance: *After the accident, Jane was rushed to the hospital* (*BrE*) *to hospital*. | *The sick man has been admitted to a hospital* (*BrE*) *to hospital*.

**hos-pi-tal-i-ty** /,hɒspɪ'tælɪti/ || 'hɑ:-/ *n* [U] **1** the quality of being hospitable; welcoming behaviour towards guests **2** food, a place to sleep, etc., when given to a guest

**hos-pi-tal-ize** also **-ise** *BrE* /'hɒspɪtl-aɪz/ || 'hɑ:-/ *v* [T *usu. pass.*] to put (a person) into hospital: *He broke a leg and was hospitalized for a month.* —**ization** /,hɒspɪtl-aɪ'zeɪʃən/ || 'hɑ:spɪtələ'zeɪ-/ *n* [U]

**host**<sup>1</sup> /həʊst/ *n* **1** a person who receives guests and provides food, drink, and amusement for them: *At the end of the party we thanked our host and went home.* **b** a person, place, or organization that provides the necessary space, equipment, etc. for a special event: *The Grand Hotel is playing host to this year's sales conference.* (=it is being held in the hotel) | *the host country for the next Olympic Games* —compare GUEST<sup>1</sup> **2** a person who introduces other performers, such as those on a TV show; COMPERE **3** *tech* an animal or plant on which some lower form of life is living as a PARASITE

**host**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T] *infml* to act as host of (a party, friendly meeting, TV show, etc.): *Moscow and Los Angeles have hosted the Olympic Games.*

**host**<sup>3</sup> *n* [C+*sing.* | *pl.* v] **1** [+of] a large number: *The machine comes with a whole host of useful accessories.* **2** *old use or bibl* an army

**host**<sup>4</sup> *n* [the] (*often cap.*) the holy bread eaten in the Christian service of COMMUNION

**hos-tage** /'hɒstɪdʒ/ || 'hɑ:-/ *n* **1** a person who is kept as a prisoner by an enemy so that the other side will do what the enemy demands: *The terrorists kidnapped the children and are keeping them as hostages.* | *They are holding the children hostage.* **2** give hostages to fortune to accept responsibilities, *esp.* having a family, that may limit one's freedom of action in the future

**hos-tel** /'hɒstl/ || 'hɑ:-/ *n* **1** a building in which certain types



of people can live and eat, such as students, young people working away from home, etc. Hostels are less expensive than hotels, and guests stay there for longer. — compare HOTEL 2 a YOUTH HOSTEL

**hos-tel-ler** *esp. BrE* || usu. **hos-tel-er** *AmE* /'hɒstələ/ || 'hæz-/ *n* a person travelling from one YOUTH HOSTEL to another

**hos-tel-ry** /'hɒstəli/ || 'hæz-/ *n* old use or humor a PUB

**host-ess** /'həʊstɪs/ *n* 1 a female host 2 an AIRHOSTESS 3 *AmE* a woman who shows one to a seat in a restaurant 4 a young woman who acts as a companion, dancing partner, etc., and sometimes as a PROSTITUTE, in a social club

**hos-tile** /'hɒstail/ || 'hæstɪl, 'hæstail/ *adj* 1 [(to)] showing extreme dislike or disapproval; unfriendly: *The prime minister was greeted by a hostile crowd/was given a hostile reception.* 2 belonging to an enemy: *hostile territory*

**hos-til-i-ties** /hɒ'stɪlɪtiz/ || 'hæz-/ *n* [P] acts of fighting in war: *Their meeting led to a cessation of hostilities between the two countries.*

**hos-til-i-ty** /hɒ'stɪlɪti/ || 'hæz-/ *n* [U (to)] a state of extreme unfriendliness; ENMITY: *There is now open hostility between the two leaders.*

**hos-tler** /'hɒslə/ || 'hæz-/ *n esp. AmE* for OSTLER

**hot** /hɒt/ || 'hæz-/ *adj -tt-* 1 having a certain degree of heat, esp. a high degree: *How hot is the water?* | *The water isn't hot yet.* | *Bake the pie in a hot oven for half an hour.* | *I feel hot after all that running.* | *It's very hot in here — can I open the window?* | *The soup was piping hot.* (=very hot) —see COLD<sup>1</sup> (USAGE) 2 causing a burning taste in the mouth: *Pepper makes food hot.* | *a hot curry* —opposite **mild** 3 (not usu. of people) expressing strong feelings; excitable: *a hot temper* —compare HEATED 4 a *esp. lit* (of people) (tending to be) sexually excited; ARDENT: *hot with passion* b *sl* sexually exciting: *one of the hottest books ever written* 5 (of news) very recent; fresh: *a hot news item* | *a story hot off the press* (=only just printed) 6 [F(on)] *infml* (of people) well-informed and very interested (in the stated thing): *She's hot on jazz.* 7 likely to cause strong feelings and argument, and therefore difficult to deal with; CONTROVERSIAL: *a hot political issue* | *The Watergate scandal eventually proved too hot to handle, and the president resigned.* 8 *AmE* popular at a particular point in time: *Michael Jackson was really hot a few years ago.* 9 *sl* (of stolen goods) difficult to sell because still known to the police, esp. soon after the crime has taken place 10 (of JAZZ) with a strong exciting beat 11 [F] (esp. in children's games) very near to finding a hidden object, the answer, etc. —compare COLD<sup>1</sup> (4), WARM<sup>1</sup> (6) 12 **blow hot and cold** *infml* to seem very keen on something or someone at times, and at other times to seem not keen at all 13 **hot and bothered** a worried and confused by a feeling that things are going wrong b *AmE* sexually excited 14 **hot on someone's trail/track** chasing someone and almost on the point of catching them 15 **hot on the heels of** following or happening just after 16 **hot under the collar:** a angry or excited and ready to argue b confused and embarrassed (EMBARRASS) 17 **in hot pursuit (of)** following (someone) very closely and eagerly: *The thieves got away in a stolen car, but the police were soon in hot pursuit.* 18 **make it (too) hot for someone** to put someone in a difficult or uncomfortable position, esp. causing them to leave 19 **not so hot** *infml* not very good; not as good as expected —see also HOTLY, HOTS, RED-HOT

**hot**<sup>2</sup> *v -tt-*

**hot up** *phr v* [I] *infml, esp. BrE* to increase in activity which is often exciting or dangerous; INTENSIFY: *The election campaign is hotting up.* | *"Air raids began to hot up about the beginning of February."* (George Orwell)

**hot air** /,hɒtˈeɪə/ *n* [U] *infml derog* meaningless talk or ideas

**hot-air bal-loon** /,hɒtˈeɪəˌbælˌluːn/ *n* a BALLOON<sup>1</sup> (1) large enough to lift several people, filled with hot air which causes it to rise

**hot-bed** /'hɒtbed/ || 'hæz-/ *n* [+of] a place or condition where the stated undesirable thing can exist and develop: *The city is a hotbed of crime.* | *a hotbed of intrigue*

**hot-blood-ed** /,hɒtˈblʊdɪd/ *adj* having strong excitable feelings; PASSIONATE

**hot cake** /,hɒtˈkeɪk/ *n AmE* a PANCAKE (2) —see also go/sell like hot cakes (CAKE<sup>1</sup> (4))

**hotch-potch** /'hɒtʃpɒtʃ/ || 'hæz-/ *esp. BrE* || usu. **hodge-**

**podge** *AmE*— *n* [S] a number of things mixed up without any sensible order or arrangement

**hot-cross bun** /,hɒtˈkrɒsˌbʌn/ *n* a small sweet cake made of bread with a cross-shaped mark on top, which is eaten on Good Friday, just before Easter

**hot dish** /'hɒtˈdɪʃ/ *n AmE* a CASSEROLE (2): *Sitting together on folded chairs eating hot dish off paper plates* | *Will you all please sign up to bring a hot dish or a dessert.*

**hot dog** /,hɒtˈdɒɡ/ || 'hæz-/ *n* a cooked FRANKFURTER or other SAUSAGE in a long bread ROLL. In the US hot dogs and HAMBURGERS are considered to be very American foods and are very popular.

**hot-dog** /'hɒtdɒɡ/ || 'hæz-/ *v* [I] *AmE infml* to behave in a showy, attention-getting way, esp. by performing actions requiring physical skills, strength, or daring: *skiers hotdogging down the slopes*

**ho-tel** /həʊ'tel/ *n* a building that provides rooms for people to stay in (usu. for a short time) and usu. also meals, in return for payment. Hotels are usu. more expensive to stay in than GUESTHOUSES or BED AND BREAKFAST but offer a higher standard of comfort. —compare HOSTEL; see INN (USAGE)

**ho-tel-i-er** /həʊ'teliə/ , -liə/ *n* a person who owns and/or runs a hotel

**hot flush** /,hɒtˈflʌʃ/ *esp. BrE* || usu. **hot flash** *AmE*— *n* a sudden feeling of heat in the skin, esp. as experienced by women at the MENOPAUSE (=the time when they stop being able to bear children)

**hot-foot** /,hɒtˈfʊt/ || 'hæz-/ *adv infml* moving quickly and eagerly: *We ran hotfoot to find out the news.*

**hotfoot**<sup>2</sup> *v* **hotfoot it** *infml* to move fast: *We hotfooted it down the street.*

**hot-gos-pel-ler** /,hɒtˈɡɒspələ/ || 'hæz-/ *n BrE infml, often derog* a religious speaker who tries to fill his hearers with excitement and strong feelings —ling *n* [U]

**hot-head** /'hɒthed/ || 'hæz-/ *n* 1 a person who does things too quickly, without thinking 2 a person who gets angry easily — ~ **ed** /,hɒtˈhedɪd/ || 'hæz-/ *adj* — ~ **edly** *adv*

**hot-house** /'hɒthaʊs/ || 'hæz-/ *n -houses* /,hauzɪz/ 1 a warm building where flowers and delicate plants can grow; a GREENHOUSE, esp. a large one 2 a place or situation in which people are interested in and discuss many ideas and activities, and which encourages other people to do the same: *Vienna was a hothouse of artistic activity.*

**hot line** /'hɒtˈlaɪn/ *n* 1 a direct telephone line between heads of government, to be used at times of great difficulty, esp. when war is threatened 2 a telephone line that can be used for a particular purpose, esp. for making inquiries: *The police have set up a hot line for relatives to contact about the plane crash.*

**hot-ly** /'hɒtli/ || 'hæz-/ *adv* 1 with anger or other strong feelings: *The rumour was hotly denied.* | *a hotly-debated issue* 2 closely and eagerly (often in the phrase **hotly pursued**)

**hot pad** /'hɒtpəd/ *n AmE* a POT HOLDER

**hot-plate** /'hɒtpleɪt/ || 'hæz-/ *n* a metal surface, usu. on an electric cooker, which can be heated and on which food can be cooked in a pan —see COOK<sup>1</sup> (USAGE)

**Hot-point** /'hɒtpɔɪnt/ || 'hæz-/ *tdmk* an American company which makes electrical equipment for use in people's houses

**hot-pot** /'hɒtpɒt/ || 'hæz-/ *n* [C;U] a mixture of MUTTON (=sheep meat), potatoes, and onions, cooked slowly in a pot, which is eaten esp. in the north of England: *Lancashire hotpot*

**hot po-ta-to** /,hɒtˈpɒtəto/ *n infml* something difficult or dangerous to deal with: *a political hot potato*

**hot rod** /'hɒtrɒd/ *n sl, esp. AmE* an old car rebuilt for high speed rather than appearance —compare STOCKCAR

**hots** /hɒts/ || 'hæz-/ *n sl* have/get the hots for to have a strong sexual interest in: *She could tell he had the hots for her.*

**hot seat** /'hɒtsiːt/ *n* [the] 1 *infml* a position of difficulty from which one must make important decisions, answer difficult questions, etc.: *As chief accountant for the firm, she's in the hot seat.* 2 *AmE sl* an ELECTRIC CHAIR used in prisons to kill prisoners who have been given a death sentence

**hot-shot** /'hɒtʃɒt/ || 'hæz-/ *adj AmE infml* very successful,



confident, and showy: *a hotshot young lawyer* — **hot shot** *n*: *He thinks he's such a hot shot.*

**hot spot** /'hɒt.spɒt/ *n* a place where there is likely to be much trouble and perhaps war or unsettled government

**hot stuff** /'hɒt.stʌf/ *n* [U] *informal* 1 someone or something of great ability or very good quality 2 someone or something exciting or dangerous, esp. sexually

**hot-tempered** /'hɒt.təm.pəd/ *adj* having a readiness to become angry quickly and easily; quick-tempered

**hot-ter** /'hɒt.ər/ *n* *BrE sl* a JOYRIDER, usu. a young man, who performs dangerous tricks e.g. *HANDBRAKE TURNS* with a stolen car — **hotting** *n* [U]

**hot tick-et** /'hɒt.tɪk.ət/ *n* *AmE informal* a fashionable or very popular person whom everyone wants to see: *Julia Roberts seems to be this year's hot ticket.*

**hot tub** /'hɒt.tʌb/ *n* a small, heated bath in which several people can sit and which is often fitted with equipment to send JETS of water into the bath, below the level of the bath water. Many people think of hot tubs as only for people who love pleasure.

**hot wa-ter** /'hɒt.wə.tər/ *n* *get into/be in hot water informal* to get into/be in a difficult situation: *His gambling activities eventually got him into hot water.*

**hot-water bot-tle** /'hɒt.wə.tər/ *n* a rubber container into which hot water is put, and which is placed inside a bed to warm it — see picture at BOTTLE

**hot-wire** /'hɒt.waɪər/ *v* [T] *sl* to start the engine of (a car or other vehicle) without the key by using the wires of the IGNITION system. This method is usu. used by car thieves: *Police said that thieves had hot-wired the car.*

**Hou-di-ni** /huːˈdiːni/, **Harry** (1874–1926) an American escape artist famous for escaping from chains and locked containers

**hou-mous, houmus, humus** /'hʊməs, 'hʊz-/ *n* HUMMUS

**hound**<sup>1</sup> /haʊnd/ *n* 1 (often in comb.) a hunting dog, esp. one that uses smell in hunting: *to ride to hounds* (=hunt foxes) — see also FOXHOUND, NEWSHOUND 2 *old-fash* a person who is disliked and considered unpleasant

**hound**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T] to chase or worry continually; HARASS: *I must finish the work so my boss will stop hounding me.* | *He was hounded out of public life by the persistent attacks of the popular newspapers.*

**Hound of the Bas-ker-villes** /,haʊnd əv ðə 'bæskəvɪlz/ *—kər-/*, **The** a story by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle in which the DETECTIVE Sherlock Holmes tries to find out who is responsible for killings that appear to have been done by a large, fierce dog

**hour** /aʊər/ *n* 1 a period of 60 minutes: *There are 24 hours in a day.* | *The journey takes about three hours.* | *a three-hour journey* | *I'll be back in an hour/in an hour's time.* | *the hours of darkness* (=night time) | *They are paid by the hour.* | *We spent many happy hours together.* | *I've been waiting here for hours.* (=for a long time) 2 a time of day when a new hour starts: *The clock struck the hour.* | *The trains leave at five minutes past the hour.* | *The attack began at sixteen hundred hours/1600 hours.* (=4 o'clock in the afternoon) 3 the distance travelled or work done in an hour: *It's only an hour away by car.* 4 (often pl.) a fixed point or period of time, esp. one that is set aside for a particular purpose or activity: *I'll see you in my lunch hour.* | *During office hours I can be contacted at this number.* | *the hospital's visiting hours* 5 an important moment or period: *In my hour of need* (=when I needed help) *no one helped me.* | *It was our country's finest hour.* (=a time giving cause for great pride, etc.) | *one of the burning* (=important) *questions of the hour* (=of the present time) 6 *after hours* later than the usual times of work or business 7 *at all hours* (at any time) during the whole day and night 8 (every hour) *on the hour* at 1.00, 2.00, 3.00, etc. 9 *hour after hour* continuously for many hours: *I waited at the airport hour after hour.* 10 *keep late/regular, etc. hours* to go to bed late/at regular times, etc. 11 *out of hours* before or after the usual times 12 *this was their finest hour* quote a phrase from a speech by Winston Churchill describing the actions of the British PILOTS who fought in the Battle of Britain — see also ELEVENTH HOUR, HAPPY HOUR, RUSH HOUR, SMALL HOURS, ZERO HOUR

**hour-glass** /'aʊəglɑːs/ *n* a glass container for measuring time, which is narrow in the middle like a

figure 8 so that the sand inside can run slowly from the top half to the bottom, taking exactly one hour: (fig.) *She has an hourglass figure.* (=with a very narrow waist)

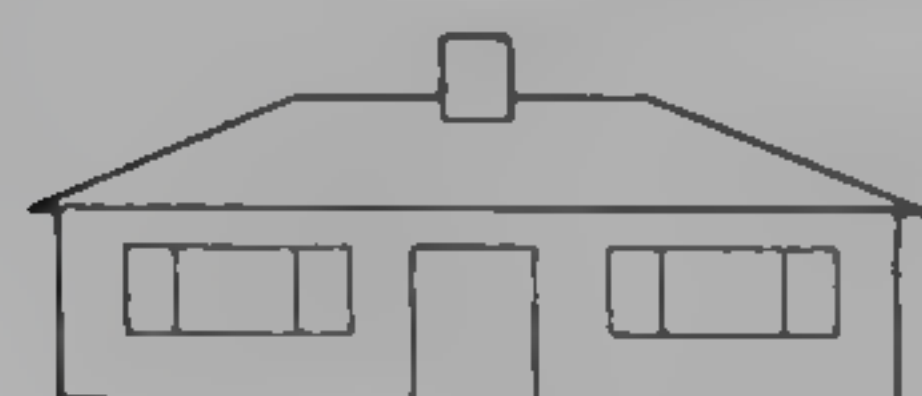
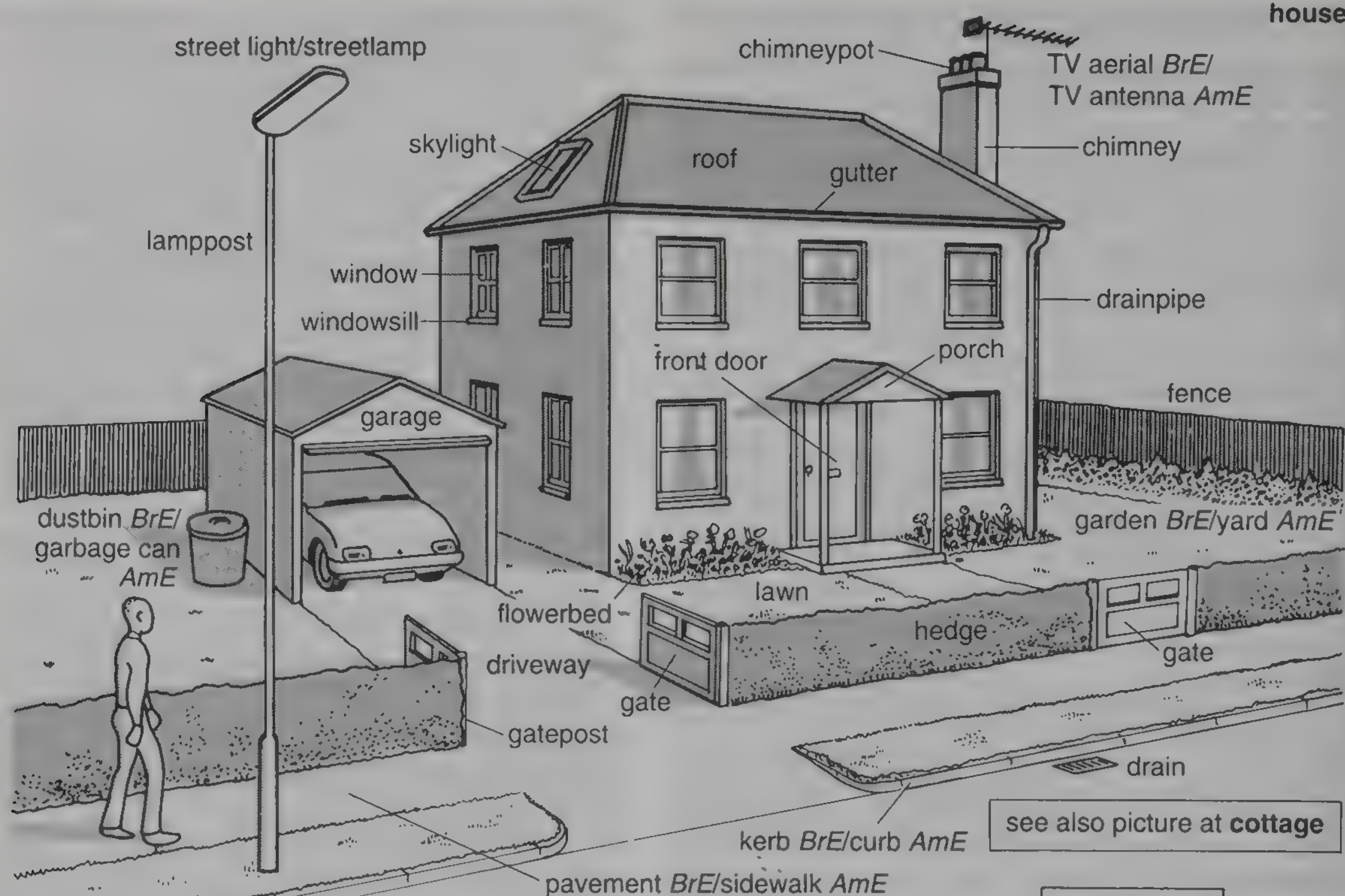
**hou-ri** /'hʊəri/ *n* -s (according to the Koran) a beautiful young woman in the Muslim heaven

**hour-ly** /'aʊəli/ *adj, adv* 1 (happening, appearing, etc.) every hour or once an hour: *an hourly inspection* | *hourly-paid workers* 2 at any time soon (esp. in the phrase *expect someone hourly*)

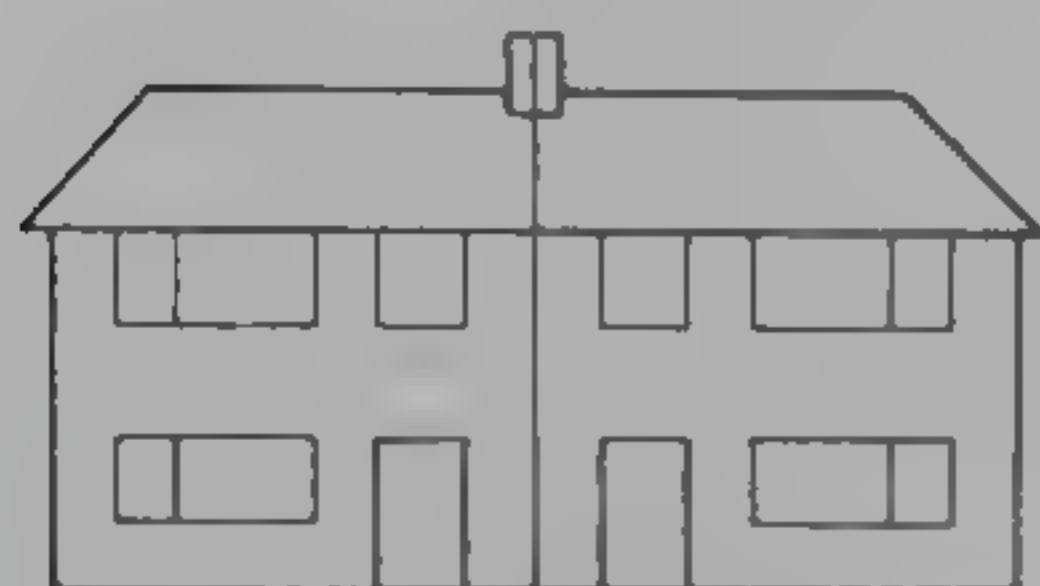
**house**<sup>1</sup> /haus/ *n* **houses** /'haʊzɪz/ 1 a a building for people to live in, often one that has more than one level (STOREY) and is intended for use by a single family: *Do you live in a house or a flat?* | (esp. *BrE*) *We're going to move house* (=move to another house) *next month.* | *a big rise in house prices* b the people in such a building: *The whole house was woken up by the noise.* 2 (usu. in comb.) a building for animals or goods: *the monkey house at the zoo* | *a hen house* — see also WAREHOUSE 3 (often cap. as part of a name) an important family, esp. noble or royal: *The House of Windsor is the British royal family.* 4 *BrE* a a building in which children live at some private BOARDING SCHOOLS, with its own name b a division of a school, esp. for sports competitions 5 a a business firm, formerly often one controlled by a single family: *These shops belong to the House of Fraser.* | *a publishing house* | *a software house* (=producing computer SOFTWARE) b (often in comb.) a usu. large building used for a particular purpose or by a company or other organization: *The union's headquarters is in Transport House.* | *a courthouse* | *a picture house* 6 a (often cap.) (the members of) a law-making body, esp. when one of two: *The President addressed both houses of Congress.* | *Will the Prime Minister please inform the House what she intends to do?* — see also LOWER HOUSE, UPPER HOUSE b (cap.) the US House of Representatives: *The Senate approved the bill, but the House voted against it.* 7 [usu. sing.] the people voting after a DEBATE: *The motion in the debate was "This house does not support capital punishment."* 8 [usu. sing.] the people watching a performance in a theatre, concert hall, etc.; AUDIENCE: *a full house* | *The play was taken off after playing to almost empty houses for two weeks.* 9 (cap. in names in ASTROLOGY) a group of stars, with its usual name: *the House of the Lion* 10 (in certain phrases) a place where people meet for a particular purpose: *a house of prostitution* — see also COFFEE HOUSE, FREE HOUSE, PUBLIC HOUSE 11 HOUSE MUSIC 12 **bring the house down** (of a performance or play) to cause great admiration, usu. expressed loudly 13 **get on like a house on fire** to have a very friendly relationship, or start one very easily 14 **keep house** to manage a house, doing or controlling the cleaning, cooking, and similar jobs — see also HOUSEKEEPER 15 **on the house** (usu. of drinks) paid for by the people in charge, e.g. by the owner of a PUB, by a company, etc. 16 **put/set one's house in order** to arrange one's affairs so that they are in better order, either in business or by improving one's private behaviour 17 **round the houses** *BrE* from one person or place to another (esp. when trying to get information): *He was sent round the houses when he tried to find out about his insurance claim.* — see also HALFWAY HOUSE, SAFE HOUSE, TOWNHOUSE, **eat someone out of house and home** (EAT (11)), **keep open house** (OPEN HOUSE)

▷ USAGE 1 A **house** is a building for people to live in and often has more than one level (storey). A **cottage** is a small, usu. old house, especially in the country and in the US is usu. used as a holiday home. A **bungalow** is a fairly modern house built on only one level. A set of rooms (including a kitchen and bathroom) within a larger building is called a **flat** in British English or an **apartment** or **condominium** in American English. An **apartment** is usu. rented (RENT<sup>2</sup> (1)), and a **condominium** is usu. owned, by the person who lives there. A small one-room flat is a **bedsitter** in British English. A large, grand house is called a **mansion** or (if it belongs to a king or queen), a **palace**. 2 Compare **house** and **home**. The place where you live is your **home**, whatever type of house it is: *After the party we went home to our flat.* British speakers often consider that your **home** is the place where you belong and feel comfortable and is more than just a **house**: *Our new house is beginning to look more like a real home.* In American English **home** can also be used for the actual building: *She has a beautiful home.* | *"New Homes for Sale."* <

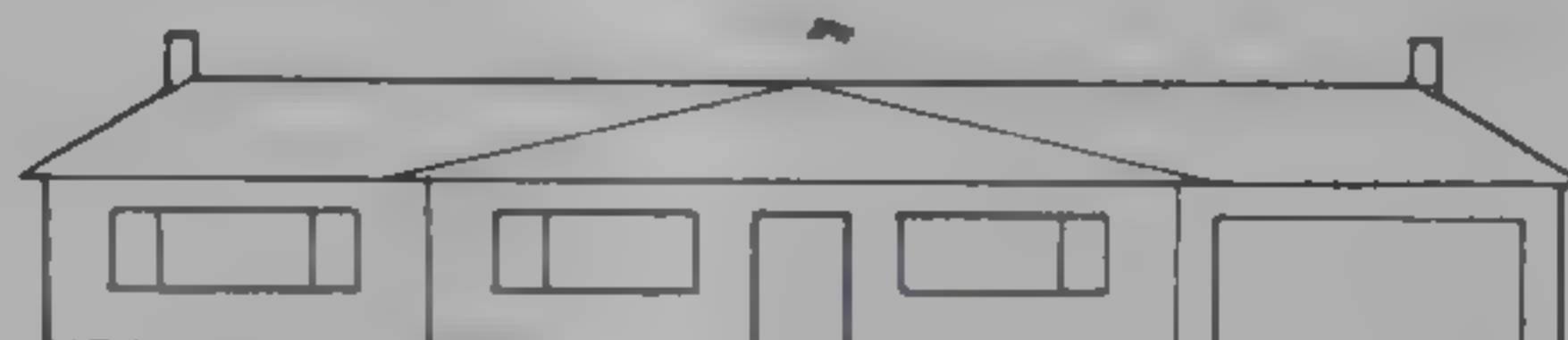




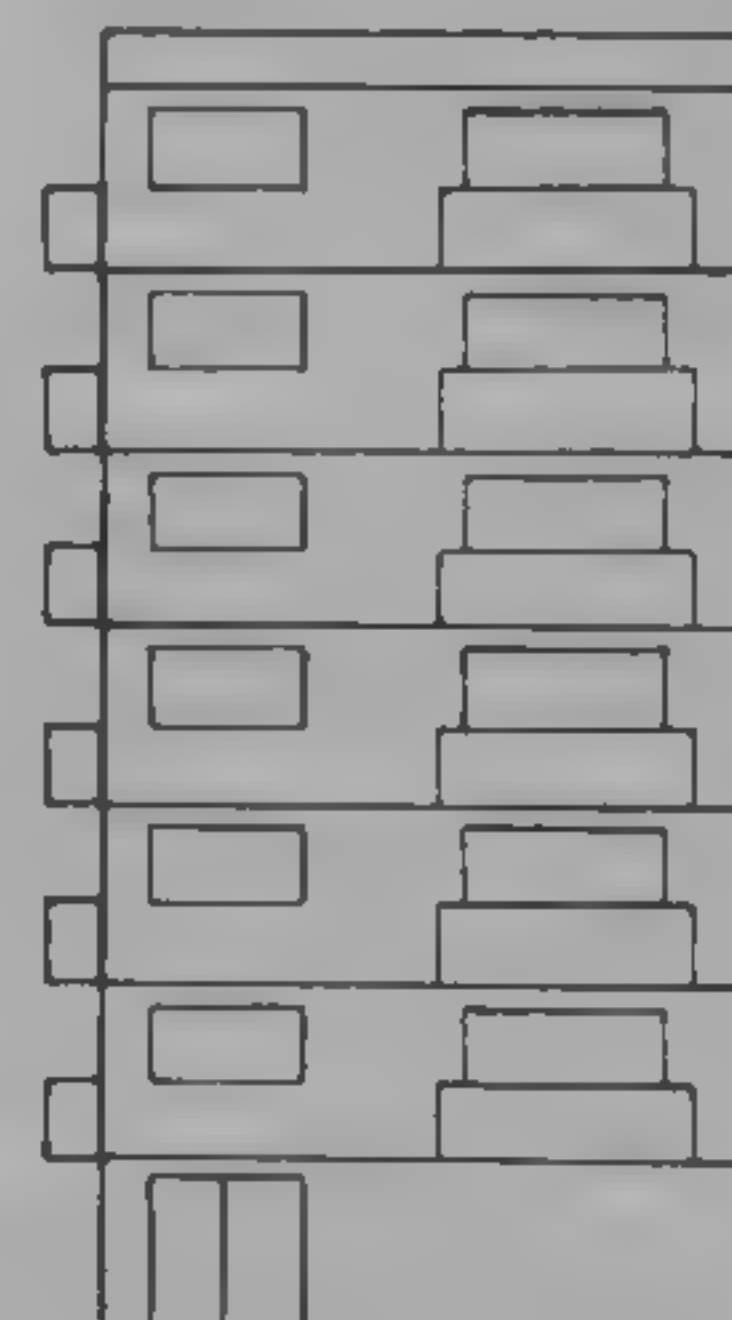
bungalow

semi-detached houses BrE/  
duplex AmE

terraced houses BrE/row houses AmE



ranch house

block of flats BrE/  
high rise AmE

**house**<sup>2</sup> *adj* [A] 1 used by or intended for people working in a particular firm or industry: *a house magazine* | *Our house style is to use the spelling “-ization” rather than “-isation”.* 2 (of wine) provided by a restaurant, esp. to be drunk with meals: *The house wine is usually cheaper.*

**house**<sup>3</sup> /haʊz/ *v* [T] 1 to provide with a place to live 2 to provide space for: *This new building will house the Department of Chemistry.*

**house ar-rest** /'həʊs, ɑːr-ɪst/ *n* **under house arrest** forbidden to leave one's house because the government believes one is dangerous

**house-boat** /'haʊsbəʊt/ *n* a boat with a covered place where one can sleep, cook, and wash. Houseboats are used for living in all the time or can be hired for short trips.

**house-bound** /'haʊsbaʊnd/ *adj* unable to move out of the house, or to spend much time outside it, usu. because of illness

**house-boy** /'haʊsbɔɪ/ *n* *now usu. considered derog* a boy or man who does general work in a house or hotel. Houseboys were employed by British people in Africa in COLONIAL times.

**house-break-er** /'haʊs, breɪkə/ *n* a thief who enters a house by force, esp. during the day —compare BURGLAR

**house-bro-ken** /'haʊs, brəʊkən/ *adj* AmE for HOUSE-TRAINED

**house-coat** /'haʊs-kəʊt/ *n* a garment worn by women at home, esp. when partly undressed just before or after their night's sleep

**house-craft** /'haʊs-kra:ft||-kræft/ *n* [U] esp. BrE for DOMESTIC SCIENCE

**house-fa-ther** /'haʊs, fɑːðə/ *n* a male HOUSEPARENT

**house-fly** /'haʊsflaɪ/ *n* the most common type of fly, which comes into the house esp. in hot weather

**house-ful** /'haʊsful/ *n* [S+of] an amount or number which is as much as a house can hold: *a houseful of guests*

**house-hold**<sup>1</sup> /'haʊshəʊld/ *n* [C+sing./pl. v] all the people living together in a house: *The whole household was/were up early.*

**household**<sup>2</sup> *adj* [A] concerned with the management of a house; DOMESTIC: *household expenses* | *household chores*  
**Household Cav-al-ry** /'həʊshəʊld, kəvəl-ri/ [the] a body of horse soldiers who have the special responsibility of guarding the British king or queen, or the royal palace. The Household Cavalry consists of two British REGIMENTS (=divisions of the army), the Life Guards and the Blues and Royals.

**household clean-er** /'həʊshəʊld, kliːn-ə/ *n* [C;U] a chemical mixture suitable for cleaning various kinds of surface in a house

**house-hold-er** /'haʊs, həʊldə/ *n* a person who owns or is in charge of a house

**household name** /'həʊshəʊld, neɪm/ also **household word**— *n* a person or thing that is very well known or talked about by almost everyone: *After the tremendous success of her third novel, she became a household name.*

**house hus-band** /'həʊshəʊld, hʌs-bənd/ *n* a husband who stays at home and cleans the house, cooks meals, etc. while his wife goes out to work; a male HOUSEWIFE

**house jour-nal** /'həʊshəʊld, dʒəːnl/ ||also **house organ** AmE— *n* a magazine produced regularly by a company for its workers to inform them about the company's activities

**house-keep-er** /'haʊs, kiːpə/ *n* a person who is responsible for housekeeping, esp. one who is employed to do this —see also HOUSE<sup>1</sup> (13)



**house-keep-ing** /'haus,kɪpɪŋ/ *n* [U] **1** the management of a house, esp. with regard to cleaning, cooking, buying food, etc. **2** also **housekeeping mon-ey** /'... ɪ-/- an amount of money set aside to pay for food and other things needed in the home **3** jobs that need to be done to keep a computer system working properly, such as making copies of FILES

**house lights** /'... ɪ/ *n* [P] the lights used in the part of a cinema or theatre where people sit

**house-maid** /'hausmeɪd/ *n* (esp. in former times) a female servant who cleans the house

**housemaid's knee** /'... ɪ/ *n* [U] a swelling of the knee, caused esp. by too much kneeling on floors while cleaning them

**house-man** /'hausmən/ *BrE* || *intern AmE* — *n* -men /mən/ a doctor of low rank (man or woman) completing hospital training, and often (esp. in Britain) living in the hospital. Housemen often work very long hours because they must be available day and night. —compare *INTERN*<sup>1</sup>

**house martin** /'... ɪ/ *n* a European bird of the SWALLOW family

**house-mas-ter** /'haus,mɑːstə/ || -mæ-/ **house-mis-tress** /-mɪstrɪs/ *fem.* — *n* esp. *BrE* a teacher who is in charge of one of the houses (HOUSE<sup>1</sup> (4)) in a school

**house-moth-er** /'haus,mʌðə/ *n* a female HOUSEPARENT

**house mu-sic** /'... ɪ/ also **house** — *n* [U] a kind of popular music involving complicated mixtures of sounds made by SYNTHESIZERS, a fast, repeated beat, and few words. House music was intended for dancing to, and was popular at the Acid House parties of the late 80s.

**house of cards** /'... ɪ/ *n* [*usu. sing.*] **1** an arrangement of playing cards built up carefully but easily knocked over **2** a plan or situation which is too badly arranged to succeed

**House of Com-mons** /'... ɪ/ also **House, Commons** — *n* [*the*] the larger and more powerful of the two parts of the British or Canadian parliament, the members of which are elected by citizens over 18 years of age. Each member represents people in a particular area and is their MP. The British House of Commons has 650 members. MPs serve for five years, except when a General Election is held before the end of that period. When a new law is introduced, it is passed first in the House of Commons, then sent to the House of Lords to be discussed and approved. Finally it must be approved by the queen and given the ROYAL ASSENT. —compare HOUSE OF LORDS; see extra information on page 565 and colour picture on page 949

**house of God** /'... ɪ/ [*the*] *lit or pomp* a church

**house of ill re-pu-te** /'... ɪ/ *n* a BROTHEL

**House of Lords** /'... ɪ/ also **House, Lords** — *n* [*the*] **1** the smaller and less powerful of the two parts of the British parliament, the members of which are not elected but have positions because of their rank or titles of honour. Members of the House of Lords include Lords, BISHOPS (=leaders of the Church of England), and LIFE PEERS (=people who have been given a title as a reward for important public service). —compare HOUSE OF COMMONS; see extra information on page 565 and colour picture on page 949 **2** the group of LAW LORDS of the House of Lords who make up the highest Court of Appeal in Britain

**House of Rep-re-sen-ta-tives** /'... ɪ/ also **House** — *n* [*the*] the larger and more powerful of the two parts of the central law-making organization in such countries as New Zealand, Australia, and the US. In the US, the House has 435 members, called **Representatives** or **Congress-men/women**, elected by their state. The number of Representatives per state depends on the size of its population. A Representative serves for two years. —compare CONGRESS, SENATE (1); see extra information on page 565 and colour picture on page 949

**house or-gan** /'... ɪ/ *n* *AmE* for HOUSE JOURNAL

**house-par-ent** /'haus,pæərənt/ *n* a person who acts as a parent to children who have no families or need special care, and who live together in a special home

**house par-ty** /'... ɪ/ *n* a party lasting for several days in a private house, esp. a large house in the country

**house-phone, house phone** /'hausfəʊn/ *n* a telephone which can only make calls within a building, esp. a hotel: *Use the housephone to reach the concierge.*

**house-plant** /'hausplɑːnt/ || -plænt/ *n* a usu. decorative plant that is grown indoors —see picture at LIVING ROOM

**house point** /'... ɪ/ *n* *BrE* a mark given to pupils in some schools as a reward for good behaviour or for doing well at sport, studies, etc.

**house-proud** /'... ɪ/ *adj* liking to have everything in perfect order in the house and spending a lot of time on keeping it clean and tidy, perhaps too much so

**house-room** /'hausru:m, -rʊm/ *n* [U] esp. *BrE* **1** space in a house for a person or thing **2** *give sbdy./sthg. house-room usu. negative* be willing to find a place in one's home for: *I think it's ugly—I wouldn't give it house-room!*

**Houses of Par-li-a-ment** /'... ɪ/ [*the*+P] the buildings in which the British parliament sits, or the parliament itself: *We bring you a report on today's debate in the Houses of Parliament.* —see colour map on page 817

**house spar-row** /'... ɪ/ *n* the most common bird of the SPARROW family

**House that Jack Built** /'... ɪ/ **The** the title of a well-known NURSERY RHYME (=an old song or poem for children) which begins "This is the house that Jack built"

**house-to-house** /'... ɪ/ also **door-to-door** — *adj* [A] (done by) visiting each house in turn: *a house-to-house collection*

**house-tops** /'haus-tɒps/ || -tɑːps/ *n* **from the housetops** publicly, so that everyone will hear or know: *shouting their demands from the housetops*

**house trail-er** /'... ɪ/ *n* *AmE* a MOBILE HOME

**house-trained** /'... ɪ/ *BrE* || **housebroken** *AmE* — *adj* **1** (of house pets) trained to go out of the house to empty the bowels or BLADDER **2** *humor* (of people) taught to be tidy and useful at home

**House Un-A-mer-i-can Ac-tiv-i-ties Com-mit-tee** /'... ɪ/ ... -'... ɪ/ *n* [*the*] see HUAC

**house-ware** /'hausweəz/ || -weəz/ *n* [P+*sing./pl.v*] *AmE* (the department of a large shop which sells) small articles used in the home, such as cooking equipment, lamps, small furniture, etc.

**house-warm-ing** /'haus,wɔːmɪŋ/ || -wɔːr-/ *n* a party given when one has moved into a new house, and to which guests sometimes bring presents for the home

**house-wife** /'haus-waɪf/ *n* -wives /waɪvz/ [C] a woman who works at home for her family, cleaning, cooking, etc., esp. one who does not work outside the home —~ly *adj*

**house-work** /'hauswɜːk/ || -wɜːrk/ *n* [U] work done in taking care of a house, esp. cleaning: *to do the housework* —compare HOMEWORK

**hou-sing** /'haʊzɪŋ/ *n* **1** [U] (the act of providing) places for people to live in: *government housing policy* | *Too many people are living in bad housing (conditions).* **2** [C] a protective covering, esp. for a piece of machinery: *the engine housing*

**Housing and Ur-ban De-vel-op-ment** /'... ɪ/ ... -'... ɪ/ *n* see HUD

**housing as-so-ci-a-tion** /'... ɪ/ ... -'... ɪ/ *n* in Britain, a society formed by a group of people so that they can build houses or flats for themselves or buy the houses or flats in which they live

**housing ben-e-fit** /'... ɪ/ ... -'... ɪ/ *n* [U] in Britain, money given by local councils to people who cannot afford to pay the rent for their room, house, or flat

**housing es-tate** /'... ɪ/ ... -'... ɪ/ *BrE* || **housing de-vel-op-ment** /'... ɪ/ ... -'... ɪ/ *AmE* — *n* a piece of land on which houses have been built, usu. close together, in a planned way —see colour picture on page 162

**housing list** /'... ɪ/ ... -'... ɪ/ *n* *BrE* a list of people waiting to be given a house or flat by the local council

**housing pro-ject** /'... ɪ/ ... -'... ɪ/ *n* esp. *AmE* a group of houses or flats usu. built with government money for families who have little money: *drug-dealing in the housing projects*

**Hous-ton** /'hjuːstən/ a city in the American state of Texas where the American government space centre (NASA) is based —see colour map on pages 1374–5

**Houston, Sam-u-el** /'sæmjʊəl/ (1793–1863) an American soldier, FRONTIERSMAN, and politician. Sam Houston fought against Mexico to gain independence for Texas. While he was president of Texas he persuaded the American government to make Texas a state (1845).



**Hous-ton** /'hʊstən/, **Whit-ney** /'wɪtni/ (1963– ) an American popular music singer who became one of the most successful singers in the late 1980s, selling millions of records in Britain and the US

**hove** /həʊv/ *tech or humor past tense & participle of HEAVE*<sup>2</sup>

**hov-el** /'hɒvəl||'hʌ-, 'hɑː-/ *n often derog or humor a small dirty place where people live*

**hov-er** /'hɒvə||'hʌ-, 'hɑː-/ *v* [I] **1** (of birds, certain aircraft, etc.) to stay in the air in one place **2** (of people) to stay around one place, esp. in a way that annoys other people: *I wish you'd stop hovering (round) and let me get on with some work!* **3** [(between)] to be in an uncertain state: *He's hovering between life and death.* — *~er n*

**hov-er-craft** /'hɒvəkɹɑːft||'hʌvəkɹæft, 'hɑː-/ *n -craft or -crafts a vehicle, esp. a large one for carrying passengers, that flies over land or water keeping very close to the surface, and is kept in flight by a strong current of air forced out beneath it —compare HYDROFOIL*

**hover mow-er** /'.., ɹ.. / *n a LAWN MOWER that is supported just above the ground on a cushion of air and has a blade that spins round and round very fast*

**Hov-han-ess** /həʊv'hænɪs/, **Al-an** /'ælən/ (1911– ) an American COMPOSER

**Ho-vis** /'həʊvɪs/ *n tdmk a company which makes different types of BREAD; it is best known for its brown bread which is considered to be good for you*

**HOV lane** /,eɪtʃ əʊ 'vɪz leɪn/ also **diamond lane**— *n AmE High Occupancy Vehicle Lane; a LANE (2) on a FREEWAY which only cars with two or more people in them can drive in*

**how**<sup>1</sup> /haʊ/ *adv* **1** (in questions) **a** in what way or by what means: *How can I get to Cambridge?* | *Will you tell me how I can get to Cambridge?* | *How is this word spelt?* | *Can you remember how to get there?* | (shows surprise or anger) *How could you do such a stupid thing?* **b** in what condition, of health or mind: *How is your mother?* | *How are you (feeling)?* | *I want to know how he feels about having to work at weekends.* **c** by what amount; to what degree: *How much does this cost?* | *How old are you?* | *I don't know how long this will take.* | *I wonder how soon he'll come.* | *It depends on how large a salary you earn.* | *I forget how many there are.* **2** (in expressions of strong feeling): *How pleased they were to see us!* | *How nice of you to come.* | *How we laughed!* —compare WHAT<sup>2</sup>; see USAGE **3** **And how!** *infml, esp. AmE* Very much so: *"Did they enjoy themselves?" "And how!"* **4** **How are you?** /, ɹ. / **a** (a question about someone's health) **b** (a phrase used when meeting someone you already know. The reply is often *"Fine (thanks). (And) how are you /, ɹ. /?"*) **5** **How come?** *infml* (expressing surprise) Why is it? How can it be that ...?: *How come he got the job when she was the best-qualified person?* **6** **How do you do?** (a phrase used to someone you have just met for the first time; this person replies with the same phrase. They usually shake hands at the same time.) —see also HOW DO YOU DO **7** **How so?** Why? In what way?: *"I think she's stuck-up."* *"How so?"* *"She never says hello when she passes me in the street."* **8** **How's that?** Please repeat; What did you say? —see also **how about** (ABOUT<sup>2</sup>)

▷ USAGE Both **how** and **what** are used in exclamations. **How** usually comes before an adjective or adverb: *How nice she is!* | *How kind of you to invite me!* | *How slowly he walks!* **What** comes before a noun or noun phrase: *What a nice person she is!* | *What an idiot I was!* <

**how**<sup>2</sup> *conj* **1** the fact that: *Do you remember how she used to smoke fifty cigarettes a day?* **2** *infml* **HOWEVER**<sup>1</sup>: *In your own home you can act how you like.*

**how**<sup>3</sup> *n* the **how** and the **why** the way something can be done and the reason for it

**How-ard** /'haʊəd || -ərd/, **Trev-or** /'treɪvə/ (1916–88) an English actor remembered esp. for his roles in films, esp. *Brief Encounter*

**Howard Johnson's** one of a group of American restaurants which are usu. found close to large roads, in order to be convenient to travellers

**Howard League for Pe-nal Re-form** /, ɹ. . . , ɹ. . . / [the] a British organization which is against physical punishment and the death sentence, and wants change in international attitudes to punishment and imprisonment

**how-dah** /'haʊdə/ *n* a usu. decorative seat for a person to sit on an elephant's back

**how do you do** /, haʊ djə 'duː, , haʊ də ju 'duː/ also **how d'ye do** /, haʊ djə 'duː/— *n a fine how do you do infml* an unpleasantly surprising situation —see also **HOW**<sup>1</sup> (6)

**how-dy** /'haʊdi/ *interj AmE infml* (used when meeting someone) HELLO

**How-dy Doo-dy** /, haʊdi 'duːdi/ an American television programme for children in which the main character, called Howdy Doody, was a PUPPET with FRECKLES and red hair who dressed like a COWBOY. The programme was on from the 1940s until 1960 and many people know that it began with the words "It's Howdy Doody time" and that the children who were present while it was being filmed were called "the peanut gallery".

**Howe** /haʊ/, **Geof-frey** /'dʒefri/ (1926– ) a British Conservative politician who was Chancellor of the Exchequer in Margaret Thatcher's government from 1979–83

**Howe, Gor-die** /'gɔːdi||'gɔːr-/ (1928– ) an American ICE HOCKEY player who played for twenty-six years in the NHL (National Hockey League)

**How-erd** /'haʊəd||-ərd/, **Frank-ie** /'fræŋki/ (1921–92) a British COMEDIAN who appeared in films, on television, and in the theatre. He is remembered esp. for playing the part of a Roman slave in the British television SERIES *Up Pompeii* and also for appearing in many "Carry On" films.

**how-ev-er**<sup>1</sup> /haʊ'evə/ *conj* in whatever way: *I'm going by car but you can go however you like.*

**however**<sup>2</sup> *adv* **1** to whatever degree: *However cold it is, she always goes swimming.* | *I won't accept their offer, however favourable the conditions.* | *We'll have to finish it, however long it takes.* **2** *rather fml* in spite of this; **NEVERTHELESS**: *The company's profits have fallen slightly. However, this is not a serious problem.* | *There is, however, another side to this problem.* | *My room is small. It's very comfortable, however.* **3** (showing surprise) **how**: *However did you find it?* —see **EVER** (3)

**How Green was My Val-ley** /, ɹ. . . 'vɹ. / a NOVEL by Richard Llewellyn, which came out in 1939 and which tells the story of a MINER's family in Wales

**how-it-zer** /'haʊɪtsə/ *n* a heavy gun which fires SHELLS<sup>1</sup> (4) high over a short distance

**howl**<sup>1</sup> /haʊl/ *n* a long loud sound, e.g. of pain, anger, etc., esp. that made by certain animals, such as wolves (WOLF) and dogs

**howl**<sup>2</sup> *v* **1** [I (with)] to make a howl: *The dogs howled all night.* | (fig.) *The wind howled in the trees.* | *We all howled with laughter.* **2** [T (OUT)] to say or express with a howl **3** [I (with)] to cry loudly, in pain, sorrow, or anger: *howling with pain*

**howl** sbdy./sthg. ↔ **down** *phr v* [T] to make a loud disapproving noise so as to prevent (someone) from being heard

**howl-er** /'haʊlə/ *n infml* a very silly mistake which makes people laugh, esp. one in which the wrong word is used in a piece of writing so that the meaning is completely changed

**howl-ing** /'haʊlɪŋ/ *adj* [A] *infml* very great; extreme: *a howling success*

**how-so-ev-er** /, haʊsəʊ'evə/ *adv lit* to whatever degree; **HOWEVER**<sup>2</sup> (1)

**how-zat** /haʊ'zæt/ also **how's that**— *interj* (a call used in CRICKET to say that someone is OUT<sup>1</sup> (16))

**Ho-xha** /'hɒdʒə||'hɑː-, **En-ver** /'envə/ (1908–85) the Communist leader of Albania from 1944 to 1982, regarded by many as an evil TYRANT

**hoy-den** /'hɔɪdn/ *n lit* a girl who is wild and rough rather than gentle and polite — *~ish adj*

**HP** /, eɪtʃ 'piː/ *abbrev. for*: **1** HORSEPOWER **2** (BrE) HIRE PURCHASE: *We got it on (the) HP.*

**HP sauce** /, eɪtʃ 'piː 'sɔːs/ *n* [U] BrE *tdmk* a thick dark brown liquid made of vegetables, fruit, and SPICES, which is sold in bottles and eaten esp. with meat

**HQ** /, eɪtʃ 'kyuː/ *n* [C;U] HEADQUARTERS: *See you back at HQ in half an hour.*

**hr, hrs** *written abbrev. for*: hour

**HRH** *abbrev. for*: His/Her Royal Highness: *HRH the Prince of Wales*



**HRT** /ˌeɪtʃ aː ˈtiː/ || -aɪr-/ *abbrev. for* HORMONE REPLACEMENT THERAPY

**HSE** /ˌeɪtʃ es ˈiːz/ [*the*] *abbrev. for* HEALTH AND SAFETY EXECUTIVE

**ht** *written abbrev. for:* height

**HTV** /ˌeɪtʃ tiː ˈviː/ Harlech Television; one of the British television companies controlled by the ITC, transmitting programmes to Wales and the West Country

**HUAC** /ˈhjuːæk, ˌeɪtʃ juː eɪ ˈsiː/ *n* [U] House Un-American Activities Committee; the group in the American House of Representatives which examined possible cases of SUBVERSIVE actions (=actions dangerous to the American government). HUAC was formed in 1938 but is most known for its actions during the 1950s when Senator Joseph McCarthy began looking at possible cases of Communism within the government, in the army, and among other important people. In 1969 HUAC took a new name but it stopped operating in 1975. —see also COMMUNIST, Joseph MCCARTHY, MCCARTHYISM

**hua-ra-che** /wəˈrɑːtʃi, hæ-/ *n* *Sp* a SANDAL often made in Mexico whose top is of leather bands woven together

**hub** /hʌb/ *n* **1** the central part of a wheel, round which it turns and into which the AXLE fits —see picture at BICYCLE **2** [(of)] the centre of activity or importance: *For him, his department is the hub of the universe.* (derog)

**Hub-bard** /ˈhʌbəd||-ərd/, **L Ron** /rɒn||rɑːn/ (1911–86) an American writer of SCIENCE FICTION, and the man who began the Church of SCIENTOLOGY

**Hub-ble Tel-e-scope** /ˈhʌbəl ˌtelɪskəʊp/ *n* [*the*] a TELESCOPE on a SATELLITE which can see further into space than telescopes on Earth

**hub-bub** /ˈhʌbʌb/ *n* {S;U} a mixture of loud noises; DIN

**hub-by** /ˈhʌbi/ *n* *infml* a husband

**hub-cap** /ˈhʌbkæp/ *n* a metal covering over the centre of the wheel of a motor vehicle —see picture at CAR

**hu-bris** /ˈhjuːbrɪs/ *n* [U] *fml* great and unreasonable pride, often bringing great misfortune to the person who shows it

**huck-le-ber-ry** /ˈhʌkəlberi||-beri/ *n* a dark blue fruit which grows in North America

**Huckleberry Finn** /ˌhʌkəˈberi||-ˈfiːn/ see Huckleberry FINN

**huck-ster** /ˈhʌkstər/ *n* **1** a person who sells small things in the street or at the doors of houses **2** *AmE*, often *derog* a person who writes advertisements, esp. for radio and television

**HUD** /hʌd/ *n* Housing and Urban Development; a part of the US government which deals with housing and the development of cities

**hud-dle** <sup>1</sup> /ˈhʌdl/ *v* [I;T (TOGETHER, UP) *usu. pass.*] **1** to (cause to) crowd together, in a group or in a pile: *The boys huddled together under the rock to keep warm.* | *They were huddled together for warmth.* | (*esp. BrE*) *Your clothes are all huddled up inside that bag getting spoilt.* **2** *huddled masses* *quote* a phrase taken from the words written on the Statue of Liberty in New York Harbour, used to talk about groups of poor people huddled together —see also STATUE OF LIBERTY

**huddle** <sup>2</sup> *n* **1** a crowd of people or things, close together and not in any ordered arrangement **2** (in American football) a group made by a team before they separate to make the next play **3** *go into a huddle* to get into a small group, away from other people, in order to talk privately or secretly

**Hud-son** /ˈhʌdsən/, **Rock** (1925–85) an American film actor known for his attractive appearance

**Hudson Bay** /ˌhʌː ˈbeɪ/ a large area of sea in northern Canada which is frozen for most of the year

**Hudson Riv-er** /ˌhʌː ˈrɪːvə/ [*the*] a river in New York State in the US, which meets the Atlantic Ocean in New York City. The Hudson is named after the EXPLORER, Henry Hudson. —see colour map on page 1376

**Hudson River School** /ˌhʌː ˈrɪːvə ˈskʊl/ *n* a group of American painters of the 1800s who painted LANDSCAPES (views of nature) in a ROMANTIC style

**Hudson's Bay Com-pany** /ˌhʌː ˈbeɪ ˈkʌmpəni/ *n* *tdmk* a company which did business for fur with the Native Americans and which once owned much land in what is now Canada

**hue** /hjuː/ *n* **1** *esp. lit or tech* (the degree of brightness in)

a colour: *The diamond shone with every hue under the sun.* **2** *fml* a type or sort: *Political opinions of every hue were represented at the conference.*

**hue and cry** /ˌhjuː ənd ˈkraɪ/ *n* [S] a noisy expression of anger, disapproval, etc., esp. when showing opposition to something: *There was a great hue and cry against the new rule.*

**huff** <sup>1</sup> /hʌf/ *v* **1** [I] to breathe with a noisy movement of air, e.g. when climbing: *They went huffing and puffing up the stairs.* **2** [T] (in the game of DRAUGHTS) to take a piece belonging to (an opponent who has failed to take a piece)

**huff** <sup>2</sup> *n* [S] a state of bad temper when one is offended or displeased: *He went off in a huff when she criticized his work.*

**huff-y** /ˈhʌfi/ also **huff-ish** /ˈhʌfɪʃ/ — *adj* *derog* **1** in a huff; SULKY **2** easily offended; TOUCHY —*ily* *adv*

**hug** <sup>1</sup> /hʌg/ *v* -gg- [T] **1** *a* to hold (someone) tightly in the arms, esp. as a sign of love *b* (of a bear) to hold (a person) tightly with the front PAWS (=legs) **2** to hold (something) in one's arms, close to one's chest: *hugging a pile of books* **3** to go along while staying near: *The boat hugged the coast.* **4** to hold on to (an idea) with a feeling of pleasure or safety **5** *hug oneself* to feel very pleased with oneself

**hug** <sup>2</sup> *n* an act of hugging: *He gave his little boy a (great big) hug at bedtime.* —see also BEAR HUG

**huge** /hjuːdʒ/ *adj* **1** extremely large: *a huge house* | *a huge amount of money* **2** very great in degree: *a huge success* —*ly* *adv* : *hugely successful* —*ness* *n* [U]

**hug-ger-mug-ger** /ˈhʌgə ˌmʌgər||ˈhʌgər-/ *n* [U] *esp. old use* **1** secrecy **2** disorder —**hugger-mugger** *adj, adv*

**Hughes** /hjuːz/, **Howard** (1905–76) a very wealthy American who was important in the aircraft and film industries and who avoided all but a few people for the last 26 years of his life

**Hughes, Lang-ston** /ˈlæŋstən/ (1902–67) a black American poet and writer famous for using African-American speech and RHYTHMS in his work

**Hughes, Ted** /ted/ (1930– ) a British poet, appointed POET LAUREATE in 1984, who is well known for his use of animal imagery

**Hu-go** /ˈhjuːgəʊ/, **Victor** (1802–85) a French writer of poems, plays, and NOVELS. Hugo's two most famous novels are *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* and *Les Misérables*.

**Hu-gue-not** /ˈhjuːgənəʊ||-nɑːt/ *n, adj* [C *usu. pl.*] (of) a member of a group of French Protestants of the 16th and 17th centuries —see also RICHELIEU

**huh** /hʌh/ *interj* *infml* (used for asking a question or for expressing surprise or disapproval): *It's pretty big, huh?*

**hu-la** /ˈhuzlə/ also **hula hula** /ˌhjuːlə ˈhjuːlə/ — *n* a Polynesian dance, involving gentle rocking movements of the hips performed by women

**hula hoop** /ˈhjuːlə ˈhuːp/ *n* *AmE tdmk* a toy in the shape of a circular band which children move by putting it around their waists and moving their HIPS

**hulk** /hʌlk/ *n* **1** the body of an old ship, no longer used at sea and left in a bad state **2** a heavy awkward person or thing

**hulk-ing** /ˈhʌlkɪŋ/ *adj* [A] big, heavy, and awkward: *We can't move that hulking great table on our own.*

**hull** <sup>1</sup> /hʌl/ *n* the main body of a ship —see picture at YACHT

**hull** <sup>2</sup> *v* [T] to take the outer covering off (a vegetable, grain, etc.): *Rice is gathered, cleaned, and hulled before being sold.* | *hulled peas*

**Hull** also **Kingston upon Hull** — an industrial city and fishing port in NE England

**hul-la-ba-loo** /ˈhʌləbəluːz, ˈhʌləbəˈluːz/ *n* -loos [*usu. sing.*] a lot of noise, esp. of voices; UPROAR

**hul-lo** /hʌˈləʊ/ *interj, n* -los *esp. BrE* HELLO

**hum** <sup>1</sup> /hʌm/ *v* -mm- **1** [I] (of bees and certain animals) to make a continuous low sound; BUZZ **2** [I;T] (of people) to make a sound like a continuous *m*, esp. as a way of singing (a tune) with closed lips: *to hum a song* **3** [(with)] to be full of life or activity: *The office was really humming (with activity).* —**hum** *n* [S]

**hum** <sup>2</sup> *v* *BrE* || **hem** *AmE* — -mm- *usu. derog* **hum and haw** /ˌhjuː ənd ˈhɔː/ *BrE* || **hem and haw** *AmE* to express uncertainty, esp. annoyingly



**hu-man**<sup>1</sup> /'hju:mən/ *adj* **1** of or concerning people, esp. as opposed to animals, plants, or machines: *the human voice* | *The archaeologists have found several human skeletons.* | *Some ancient societies used to practise human sacrifice.* | *The broken-down old house was not fit for human habitation.* (=not suitable for people to live in) | *The accident was caused by human error, not by a fault in the machine.* **2** concerning or typical of ordinary people: *Everyone makes mistakes sometimes — we're only human.* | *It's only human nature to want a comfortable life.* | *a newspaper story with plenty of human interest, about a little boy and his dog* **3** showing the feelings, esp. those of KINDNESS, which people are supposed to have: *He's quite human when you get to know him.* — opposite **inhuman**; compare **HUMANE**; see also **HUMANLY**

**human**<sup>2</sup> also **human be-ing** /'hju:mən/ *n* a man, woman, or child, not an animal — see **MAN** (USAGE) — see picture at **SKELETON**

**hu-mane** /'hju:meɪn/ *adj* **1** showing human kindness, thoughtfulness, and sympathy for the suffering and misfortune of others, etc.: *a humane method of killing animals* (=one that causes the least possible pain) — opposite **inhumane**; compare **HUMAN** **2** [A] *fml, now rare* (of studies) concerned with the ARTS, such as literature and history — *~ly adv*

**Humane So-ci-e-ty** /'hju:mən sɔ:siəti/ [the] an American organization which is mainly concerned about the humane treatment of animals

**human immuno deficiency virus** /'hju:mən ɪmjuːnəʊ dɪ'fɪʃənsi ,vaɪərəs/ see **HIV**

**hu-man-is-m** /'hju:mənɪzəm/ *n* [U] (often *cap.*) **1** a system of beliefs and standards concerned with the needs of people, and not with religious ideas **2** the study in the Renaissance of the ideas of the ancient Greeks and Romans — *ist n, adj* — *istic* /'hju:mə'nɪstɪk/ *adj*

**hu-man-i-tar-i-an** /'hju:mənɪ'teəriən/ *n, adj* (a person) concerned with trying to improve people's lives, e.g. by providing better conditions to live in and by opposing injustice — *~ism n* [U]

**hu-man-i-ties** /'hju:mənɪtiz/ *n* [the+P] studies such as ancient and modern literature, history, etc.; the ARTS (1)

**hu-man-i-ty** /'hju:mənɪti/ *n* [U] **1** the quality of being humane or human **2** human beings generally

**hu-man-ize** also **-ise** *BrE* /'hju:mənaɪz/ *v* [T] to cause to be or seem human or humane

**hu-man-kind** /'hju:mən'kaɪnd/ *n* [U] human beings generally; **MANKIND**

**hu-man-ly** /'hju:mənli/ *adv* according to human powers: *It's not humanly possible to finish that work in a week.* (=it's completely impossible)

**hu-man-oid** /'hju:mənɔɪd/ *adj* (esp. of a machine) having human shape or qualities: *a humanoid robot* — **humanoid n**

**human race** /'hju:mən'reɪs/ [the] human beings thought of as a group; **MANKIND** — see **MAN** (USAGE)

**human re-sourc-es** /'hju:mən'reɪsɪs/ *n* [P] (the abilities, skills, etc. of) people: *Closing down this factory is a waste of the industry's human resources.*

**human rights** /'hju:mən'raɪts/ *n* [P] the non-political rights of freedom, equality, etc., which belong to any person without regard to race, religion, colour, sex, etc.: *an international agreement on human rights* | *a human rights campaigner* | *human rights violations/abuses*

**human shield** /'hju:mən'ʃɪld/ *n* [C *usu. sing.*] non-military people, esp. of the same nationality as an attacking force, brought into a military area by the defenders to discourage attack (by increasing the risk that the attacker may kill or INJURE his own people). This phrase was used a lot during the Gulf War.

**Hum-ber-side** /'hʌmbəsaɪd/ *n* a COUNTY in NE England including the ESTUARY of the River **Humber**, which is crossed by the **Humber Bridge**

**hum-ble**<sup>1</sup> /'hʌmbəl/ *adj* **1** of low rank or position (in society, in an organization, etc.): *just a humble clerk* | *He rose from humble origins to become prime minister.* **2** having a low opinion of oneself and a high opinion of others; **UNASSUMING** — opposite **proud** **3** **eat humble pie** to have to admit that one was wrong or that one has failed **4** **your humble servant** (a very polite and formal way

of ending a letter before signing it, used esp. formerly) — *bly adv*

**humble**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T] *fml* to cause (someone or oneself) to lose pride or position: *to humble one's enemy* | *a humbling experience*

**hum-bug**<sup>1</sup> /'hʌmbʌg/ *n* **1** [U] *old-fash* an insincere expression of shock, disapproval, etc.: *This newspaper is always talking about the decline of moral standards, but that's sheer humbug because it's full of pornographic pictures.* **2** [U] *old-fash* nonsense **3** [C] *old-fash* a deceitful person who pretends to be something he/she is not; **IMPOSTOR** **4** [C] *BrE* a sweet made of hard boiled sugar and usu. tasting of **MINT**<sup>3</sup>

**humbug**<sup>2</sup> *interj* nonsense!

**hum-ding-er** /'hʌm'dɪŋə/ *n* *infml* a wonderful person or thing

**hum-drum** /'hʌmdrʌm/ *adj* too ordinary; without variety or change; **MONOTONOUS**: *our humdrum lives*

**Hume** /'hju:m/, **Cardinal Basil** (1923– ) the **ARCHBISHOP** of Westminster (=the head of the Roman Catholic church in Britain) from 1976

**Hume, David** (1711–76) an influential Scottish writer on **PHILOSOPHY** (1) and history, whose best known works are *A Treatise of Human Nature* and his *History of England*

**hu-mer-us** /'hju:mərəs/ *n* *tech* the long bone in the top half of the arm — see picture at **SKELETON**

**hu-mid** /'hju:mɪd/ *adj* (of air and weather) containing a lot of water **VAPOUR**; **DAMP**: *a humid day/climate* — compare **DRY**<sup>1</sup> (2); see **DAMP** (USAGE)

**hu-mid-i-fy** /'hju:mɪdaɪ/ *v* [T] to make humid — **fier n**

**hu-mid-i-ty** /'hju:mɪdɪti/ *n* [U] the (amount of) water **VAPOUR** contained in the air: *It's not the heat but the humidity that makes it so uncomfortable today.*

**hu-mil-i-ate** /'hju:mɪliet/ *v* [T] to cause to feel ashamed or to lose the respect of others: *It was so humiliating to be corrected by the head teacher in front of the whole school.* — **-ation** /'hju:mɪli'eɪʃən/ *n* [C;U]

**hu-mil-i-ty** /'hju:mɪlɪti/ *n* [U] the quality of being **HUMBLE** (2); lack of pride

**Hum-ming-bird** /'hʌmɪŋbɜ:d/ *n* a very small bird whose wings beat very fast and make a humming noise (**HUM**)

**hum-mock** /'hʌmək/ *n* a very small hill; **HILLOCK**

**hummus** /'hʌmʊs, 'hʌz-/ , also **houmous**, **houmus**, **humus** — *n* [U] a thick mixture made mainly from **CHICK-PEAS** (=a kind of vegetable), eaten as food esp. in Greece and the Middle East

**hu-mor-ist** /'hju:mərɪst/ *n* [U] a person who makes jokes, esp. in writing

**hu-mor-ous** /'hju:mərəs/ *adj* funny; that makes people laugh: *a humorous play/remark/character in a play* — *~ly adv*

**hu-mour**<sup>1</sup> *BrE* || **humor** *AmE* /'hju:mə/ *n* **1** [U] (the ability to understand and enjoy) what is funny and makes people laugh: *He hasn't got much of a sense of humour.* **2** [U] the quality of causing amusement: *a story full of humour* | *She couldn't see the humour in the situation.* **3** [C *usu. sing.*] *old-fash fml* a state of mind; **MOOD**<sup>1</sup>: *in a good humour* **4** [C] any of four liquids which were formerly thought to be present in the body in varying degrees, and to influence the character **5** **out of humour** *old-fash fml* in a bad temper; **MOODY** **6** **-humoured** *BrE* || **-humored** *AmE* /'hju:məd/ *n* having the stated condition of mind: *good-humoured* | *ill-humoured* — see also **BLACK HUMOUR**

**humour**<sup>2</sup> *BrE* || **humor** *AmE* — *v* [T] to accept the wishes, esp. foolish or unreasonable wishes, of (someone) esp. in order to keep them happy or prevent them from complaining

**hump**<sup>1</sup> /hʌmp/ *n* **1** [C] a large lump or round part which stands out noticeably: *There's a hump in the road to slow down the traffic.* **2** [C] a lump on the back, esp. a of a **CAMEL** b of a **HUNCHBACK** **3** [the] *BrE infml* a feeling of bad temper or dislike of life in general: *It's giving me the hump, all this bad weather!* **4** **over the hump** past the worst part

**hump**<sup>2</sup> *v* **1** [T+obj+adv/prep] *BrE infml* to carry (something heavy), esp. with difficulty: *We humped the*



cupboard upstairs. | I'm tired of humping all this luggage around. 2 [I;T] *taboo sl* to have sex (with)

**hump-back** /'hʌmpbæk/ *n* a back with a hump; HUNCHBACK —backed *adj*

**humpbacked bridge** /'hʌmpbækɪdʒ/ *n* esp. BrE a short sharp rise and fall in the surface of a road as it goes over a bridge

**Hum-per-dinck** /'hʌmpədɪŋk||-pər-/ , **En-gel-bert** /'ɛŋgəl-bɜ:t|| -bɜ:rt/ (1854–1921) a German COMPOSER best known for his OPERA *Hansel und Gretel*

**Humperdinck, Engelbert** (1936– ) a British popular music singer who was successful in the 1960s with slow love songs which were popular with people of all ages

**humph, h'm** /hʌmf, hmh, hm/ *interj* (a sound made with the lips closed to express a feeling of doubt or dissatisfaction with something said or done)

**Hum-phries** /'hʌmfri:z/, **Bar-ry** /'bæri/ (1931– ) an Australian entertainer who appears dressed as characters he has invented, esp. Dame Edna Everage and Sir Les Patterson —see also DAME EDNA

**Hump-ty Dump-ty** /'hʌmpti 'dʌmpti/ a character shaped like an egg in a NURSERY RHYME (=an old song or poem for children):

*Humpty Dumpty sat on a wall,*

*Humpty Dumpty had a great fall.*

*All the King's horses and all the King's men*

*Couldn't put Humpty together again.*

**hu-mus**¹ /'hju:məs/ *n* [U] rich soil made of decayed plants, leaves, etc.

**humus**² /'hʊmʊs, 'huz-/ *n* HUMMUS

**Hun** /hʌn/ *n* derog a name for Germans esp. used in the First and Second World Wars

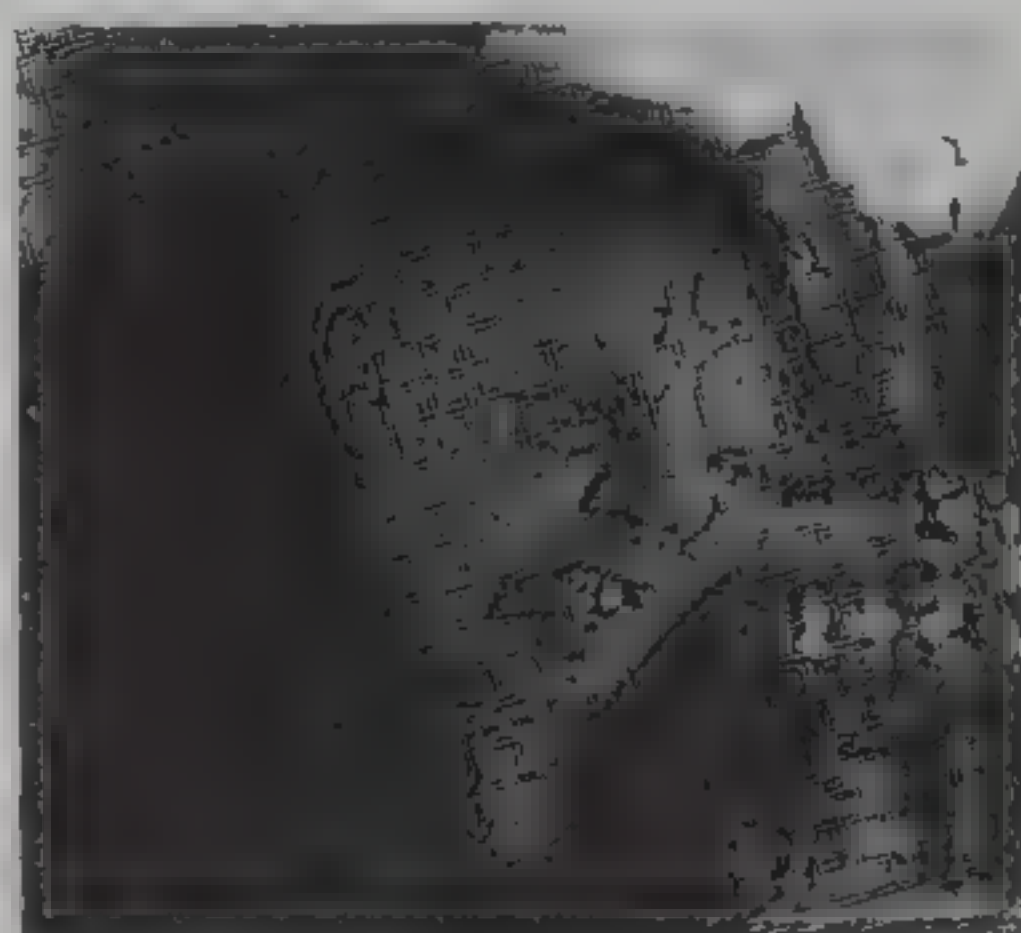
**hunch**¹ /hʌntʃ/ *n* an idea based on feeling rather than on reason or facts: "How did you know that horse was going to win?" "It was just a hunch." [+ (that)] I have a hunch that she didn't really want to go.

**hunch**² *v* [T (UP)] to pull (all or part of the body) into a rounded shape: *She hunched (up) her shoulders over her book.* | *sitting hunched up in a corner*

**hunch-back** /'hʌntʃbæk/ *n* (a person who has) a back that sticks out in a large rounded lump —backed *adj*

**Hunch-back of Not-re Dame** /'hʌntʃbæk ɒf nɒt-re dæm/ , **The** a book by the French writer Victor Hugo which tells a story of love and death in 15th century Paris and is remembered for the character **Quasimodo**, a hunchback

**Charles Laughton as the Hunchback of Notre Dame**



**hun-dred** /'hʌndrɪd/ *determiner, n, pron* -dred or -dreds (the number) 100: *a hundred years* | *two hundred miles* | (informal) *I've been there hundreds of times.* (=very often) —see TABLE 1

**hundreds and thou-sands** /'hʌndrɪdθ ɒnd θaʊzənz/ BrE || **nonpareil** AmE— *n* [P] small, thin pieces of coloured sugar used to decorate cakes and other food which is to be eaten by children

**hun-dredth** /'hʌndrɪdθ/ *determiner, n, pron, adv* 100th —see TABLE 1

**hun-dred-weight** /'hʌndrɪdweɪt/ (written abbrev. cwt)— *n* -weight a measure of weight —see TABLE 2

**Hundred Years' War** /'hʌndrɪd jɪəz wɔ:/ [the] a war (1337–1453) between England and France resulting from royal quarrels, particularly over land, and ending in the defeat of the English as they were pushed back out of France

**hung** /hʌŋ/ 1 *past tense & participle of HANG* 2 *adj* [A] (of a parliament, council, or JURY) evenly divided between opposing parties or opinions, so that decisions cannot be made

**Hun-ga-ri-an** /hʌŋ'geəriən/ *n* 1 [C] a person who comes

from or whose parents come from Hungary 2 [U] the official language of Hungary

**Hun-ga-ry** /'hʌŋgəri/ a country in central Europe, formerly under COMMUNIST rule; capital Budapest; population 10,576,000 (1989)

**hun-ger**¹ /'hʌŋgə/ *n* 1 [U] the wish or need for food 2 [U] lack of food, esp. for a long period: *people dying of hunger* 3 [S (for)] a strong wish: *a hunger for change/adventure*

**hunger**² *v* [I] *old use* to feel hunger

**hunger for/after** sthg. *phr v* [T] esp. *lit* to want very much

**hunger march** /'hʌŋgə mɑ:ʃ/ *n* a procession made esp. by unemployed and poor people, to make known the difficulties of those who cannot afford to eat —**hunger marcher** *n*

**hunger strike** /'hʌŋgə stri:k/ *n* a refusal to eat, esp. by people in prison, as a sign of strong dissatisfaction —**hunger striker** *n*

**hung-o-ver** /hʌŋ'əʊvə/ *adj* suffering the effects of drinking too much the night before; having a HANGOVER (1): *Jerry's hungover from his all-night stag party.*

**hung par-li-a-ment** /'hʌŋ pɑ:liəmənt/ *n* BrE a parliament in which no political party has more elected representatives than the others

**hun-gry** /'hʌŋgri/ *adj* 1 feeling or showing hunger: *hungry children* | *If you can't be bothered to go to the shops you'll just have to go hungry.* (=remain without food) 2 causing hunger: *hungry work* 3 [(for)] having a strong eager wish: *We're hungry for news of our brother in Australia.* —**grily** *adv*

**hunk** /hʌŋk/ *n* 1 [(of)] a thick piece, esp. of food, broken or cut off: *a hunk of bread* —see CHUNK (USAGE), and see picture at PIECE 2 *often humor* a strong-looking man with big muscles

**hun-ker** /'hʌŋkə/ *v* [I] to sit on one's heels; SQUAT: *They hunkered by the fire, warming themselves.* | *The soldiers hunkered down in the trench.*

**hun-kers** /'hʌŋkəz||-ərz/ *n* [P] esp. BrE *informal* the part of the body between the waist and legs; HAUNCHES: *they all sat down on their hunkers*

**hun-ky-dor-y** /'hʌŋki 'dɔ:ri/ *adj* [F] *informal* (esp. of a situation) very satisfactory

**hunt**¹ /hʌnt/ *v* 1 [I;T] to chase in order to catch and kill (animals and birds), either for food or for sport 2 [I;T] a to chase (foxes) on horseback with HOUNDS (=hunting dogs) b to do this in (an area): *to hunt the county* 3 [I (for);T] to search (for); try to find: *I've hunted high and low* (=everywhere) *for my socks.* | *We spent the weekend house-hunting.* (=looking for a new house) 4 [T] to follow in order to catch: *hunting an escaped prisoner*

▷ USAGE In Britain, *to go hunting* normally means to use dogs (HOUNDS) to chase the animal (usually a fox) while riding a horse. The sport of killing animals or birds with a gun is called **shooting**. But in the US the word **hunting** is used for both these sports.◀

► CULTURAL NOTE In the US, hunting is a popular sport among some people, while others think of hunting as IN-HUMANE. In Britain, there is particularly strong opposition to the hunting of foxes. —see also HUNT SABOTEUR◀

**hunt** sbdy./sthg. ↔ **down/out/up** *phr v* [T] to succeed in finding after much effort

**hunt**² *n* 1 (often in comb.) an act of hunting: *the long hunt through the fields and woods* | *a bear-hunt* | *an elephant-hunt* 2 BrE a an occasion of hunting foxes; a FOXHUNT b [+sing./pl. v] the people who regularly hunt foxes together c the area in which they hunt 3 [(for)] a search, esp. one that is long and difficult: *The hunt for these terrorists still continues.* | *He's left his job so the hunt is on* (=has begun) *for a new director.*

**Hunt, Wil-liam Hol-man** /'wɪljəm 'həʊlmən/ (1827–1910) an English painter who, with Millais and Rossetti, began the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood —see also PRE-RAPHAELITE

**hunt-er** /'hʌntə/ *n* 1 a person or animal that hunts something, usu. wild animals 2 a strong horse used in fox-hunting (FOXHUNT) 3 BrE a watch with a metal cover over its FACE (=the front) —see also FORTUNE HUNTER

**hunter-gath-er-er** /'hʌŋ'geəriən/ *n* a member of a very early society that lived by hunting animals and gathering wild



crops for food, moving around as needed to find enough to eat

**hunting ground** /'hʌntɪŋ ɡraʊnd/ *n* **1** a place where animals are hunted **2** a place where one may hope to find what one is searching for: (fig., *humor*) *They've gone to the happy hunting ground.* (=heaven)

**hunt-in', shoot-in', and fish-in'** /'hʌntɪn, 'ʃuːtɪn ənd 'fɪʃɪn/ *n, adj* (interested in) outdoor activities, esp. hunting, shooting GROUSE, and fishing, which are considered to be typically done by British upper-class people. The manner of speaking of these people is meant to be shown by the missing letters.

**hunting pink** /'hʌntɪŋ ˈpɪŋk/ *n* [U] (the colour of) the bright red coats worn by people in Britain who ride horses and hunt foxes

**hunt-ress** /'hʌntɪrɪs/ *n* esp. *lit* a female hunter

**hunt sab-o-teur** /'hʌnt səˈbɒˌteɪə/ *n* a person, usu. one of a group, who tries to stop a hunt because he/she believes that wild animals such as FOXES should not be killed in this way

**hunts-man** /'hʌntsmən/ *n* -men /mən/ **1** a person, usu. a man, who hunts; hunter **2** the person in charge of the HOUNDS (=dogs) during a FOXHUNT

**hunt the thim-ble** /'hʌnt ðə ˈtɪmbəl/ *n* [U] a popular children's game in Britain, in which a THIMBLE is hidden in a room and the children have to find it

**Hurd** /hɜːd/ [hɜːrd], Douglas (1930– ) a Conservative minister in the British parliament from 1979 and foreign minister from 1990

**hur-dle** <sup>1</sup> /'hɜːdl/ [hɜːr-/ *n* **1** a frame for jumping over in a race **2** a difficulty which must be dealt with: *He overcame many hurdles to become a lawyer.*

**hurdle** <sup>2</sup> *v* [I] to run a hurdle race — **hurdler** *n*

**hur-dy-gur-dy** /'hɜːdi ˌɡɜːdi/ [hɜːrdi ˈɡɜːrdi/ *n* a small BARREL ORGAN

**hurl** /hɜːl/ [hɜːrl/ *v* [T] **1** to throw (esp. something big and heavy) with force: *He hurled a brick through the window.* **2** to shout out violently: *He hurled abuse at the driver who almost crashed into him.*

**hurl-ing** /'hɜːlɪŋ/ [hɜːr-/ *n* [U] an Irish ball game played between two teams of 15 players

**hur-ly-bur-ly** /'hɜːli ˌbɜːli/ [hɜːrli ˈbɜːrli/ *n* [S;U] noisy activity: *the hurly-burly of city life*

**Hu-ron** /'hjuərən/, Lake the second largest of the Great Lakes, on the border between the US and Canada —see colour map on pages 1374–5

**hur-ray, hooray** /hʊ'rei/ also **hur-rah** /hʊ'ra:/ *old-fash-interj, n* (a shout of joy or approval) (note the phrase **hip, hip, hurray**): *Three cheers for the winner: Hip, hip, hur-ray!* —see CHEER (CULTURAL NOTE)

**hur-ri-cane** /'hʌrɪkən/ [hɜːrɪkeɪn/ *n* a violent storm with a strong fast circular wind in the western Atlantic ocean —compare CYCLONE, TYPHOON; see STORM (USAGE)

**Hurricane** *n* a type of British fighter aircraft which became famous in the Second World War for its success against enemy bombers and fighters —see also SPITFIRE

**hurricane lamp** /'hʌrɪkən ˈlæmp/ *n* a lamp which has a strong cover to protect the flame inside from wind —see picture at LIGHT

**hur-ried** /'hʌrɪd/ [hɜːrɪd/ *adj* done very quickly, perhaps too quickly: *hurried work* — **~ly** *adv*

**hur-ry** <sup>1</sup> /'hʌri/ [hɜːri/ *v* **1** [I;T] to (cause to) be quick in action or movement, sometimes too quick: *There's no need to hurry; we're not late.* | *She hurried across the road to catch the bus.* | *Don't hurry me; I'm working as fast as I can!* **2** [T+obj+adv/prep] to send or bring quickly: *Doctors and nurses were hurried to the scene of the accident.*

**hurry up** *phr v* **1** [I;T (=hurry sbdy. up)] to (cause to) act or move more quickly: *I tried to hurry him up, but he wouldn't walk any faster.* | *If you don't hurry up we'll miss the plane.* **2** [T] (hurry sthg. up) to do faster: *We have to hurry this job up if we want to finish by Thursday.*

**hurry** <sup>2</sup> *n* [U] **1** movement or activity that is quicker than is usual or necessary: *We've got plenty of time — what's all the hurry for?* **2** need for quickness: *Don't drive so fast: there's no hurry.* **3** **in a hurry:** a (too) quickly: *You make mistakes if you do things in a hurry.* b anxiously eager: *She seemed to be in a hurry to leave.* | *I'm in no hurry to go.* c [usu. in negatives] *infml* easily or quickly: *I won't forget her kindness in a hurry.* d [usu. in negatives] *infml* willingly: *I won't help her again in a hurry — she's*

*been so ungrateful.* | *I'm in no hurry to help her again.*

**hurt** <sup>1</sup> /hɜːt/ [hɜːrt/ *v* **hurt** **1** [T] to cause physical pain and/or damage to (esp. a part of the body); INJURE: *She hurt her leg when she fell.* | *The two cars collided, but luckily no one was seriously hurt.* **2** [I;T] to produce a feeling of pain (in): *My leg hurts.* | *Is that tight shoe hurting you/your foot?* | *"Where does it hurt, Mr Jones?" "Just here, doctor."* **3** [T] to cause (a person) to suffer pain of the mind, esp. by unkindness; upset: *I was deeply hurt by the way she just ignored me.* | *I'm sorry if I hurt your feelings.* **4** [I;T] to cause harm or difficulty (to): *A lot of companies will be hurt by these new tax laws.* | *This will hurt his reputation/his chances of being elected.* | (*infml*) *It won't hurt you to get up early for once.* | *Have another drink — one more won't hurt.* **5** (he) wouldn't hurt a fly (he) is a kind and gentle person

▷ USAGE When **hurt** is used in the sense of bodily damage, you may be *slightly/badly/seriously hurt*, but do not use these adverbs when speaking of unhappiness caused by someone's behaviour. Compare *She was badly/slightly hurt when she fell off the ladder* and *She was very/rather/deeply hurt by his unkind words.* —see also WOUND<sup>3</sup> (USAGE)◁

**hurt** <sup>2</sup> *n* [(to)] *fml* **1** [U] harm; damage, esp. to feelings **2** [C often *pl.*] damage; INJURY to the body

**hurt-ful** /'hɜːtful/ [hɜːrt-/ *adj* [(to)] painful to the feelings; unkind: *There's no need to make such hurtful remarks.* — **~ly** *adv* — **~ness** *n* [U]

**hur-tle** /'hɜːtl/ [hɜːr-/ *v* [I+adv/prep] to move or rush with great speed: *Rocks hurtled down the cliffs/through the air.*

**hus-band** <sup>1</sup> /'hʌzbənd/ *n* **1** the man to whom a woman is married: *Have you met her husband?* | *John would make an ideal husband for her.* | *her ex-husband* (=to whom she was formerly married) **2** **husband and wife** a married pair **3** **my husband and I** *poet or humor* a phrase used by the British Queen and, esp. humorously, by other women instead of "we" when talking about themselves and their husbands —see also HOUSE HUSBAND

**husband** <sup>2</sup> *v* [T] *fml* to save carefully and/or make the best use of: *to husband one's strength/resources*

**hus-band-man** /'hʌzbəndmən/ *n* -men /mən/ *old use or bibl* a farmer

**hus-band-ry** /'hʌzbəndri/ *n* [U] *fml or tech* farming; animal husbandry

**hush** <sup>1</sup> /hʌʃ/ *v* [I often *imperative*; T] to (cause to) be silent and/or calm —compare SHUSH

**hush** sthg. ↔ **up** *phr v* [T] to keep (something that should be publicly known) secret: *The President tried to hush up the fact that his adviser had lied.* — **hush-up** /'hʌʃ-ʌp/ *n* [S]

**hush** <sup>2</sup> *n* [S;U] (a) silence, esp. a peaceful one: *A hush fell over/on the room.* | *Can we have a bit of hush, please!*

**hush-a-bye ba-by** /'hʌʃəˌbaɪ ˌbaɪ/ (the first words of) an old British song sung by adults to put babies to sleep

**hush-hush** /'hʌʃ-ʌʃ/ [hʌʃ-ʌʃ/ *adj infml* (of plans, arrangements, etc.) hidden, or to be hidden, from other people's knowledge; secret

**hush mon-ey** /'hʌʃ ˌmʌni/ *n* [U] *infml* money paid secretly to prevent some shameful fact from being known publicly —compare BLACKMAIL

**Hush Pup-pies** /'hʌʃ ˌpʊpi/ *n* [P] *tdmk* a kind of shoe made from soft leather (SUEDE) and said to be very comfortable

**hush pup-py** /'hʌʃ ˌpʊpi/ *n* *AmE* a small fried cake of MAIZE flour which is typical of the Southern US

**husk** /hʌsk/ *n* **1** the dry outer covering of some fruits and seeds: *Brown bread contains the husk of wheat.* **2** the useless outside part of something

**hus-ky** <sup>1</sup> /'hʌski/ *adj* **1** (of a person or voice) difficult to hear and breathy, as if the throat were dry —compare HOARSE **2** *infml* (of a man) big and strong — **~kily** *adv* — **~kiness** *n* [U]

**husky** <sup>2</sup> *n* a rather large working dog with thick hair that lives in northern Canada, Alaska, and eastern Siberia, and is used by ESKIMOS to pull SLEDGES over the snow

**hus-sar** /hʊˈzɑːr/ *n* a soldier in the part of the British CAVALRY (=horse soldiers) which carries light weapons

**Hus-sein** /hʊˈseɪn/, King (1935– ) the king of Jordan from 1952. He is often seen as a calming force in Middle Eastern politics.



**Hus-sein, Sad-dam** /sæ'dæm/ (1937– ) the president of Iraq and leader of the socialist Ba'ath party. Under his rule, Iraq was involved in a long war with Iran and attempted to take over Kuwait. In the war that followed (the Gulf War), United Nations forces from a number of countries, including Britain and the US, forced Iraq to leave Kuwait.

**hus-sy** /'hasi, 'hæzi/ *n* *old-fash* a girl or woman who is impolite or sexually improper: *You brazen/shameless hussy!*

**hus-tings** /'hæstɪŋz/ *n* [*the+P*] *BrE* the process of making speeches, attempting to win votes, etc., which goes on before an election: *All politicians are out on the hustings in the run-up to the election.*

**hus-tle**<sup>1</sup> /'hæsl/ *v* **1** [I;T] to (cause to) move fast: *She hustled the children off to school and started working.* **2** [T (into)] *infml, esp. AmE* to persuade by forceful, esp. deceitful activity: *We didn't want them, but he hustled us into buying them.* **3** [I] *infml, esp. AmE* to work as a PROSTITUTE

**hustle**<sup>2</sup> *n* [U] hurried activity (esp. in the phrase *hustle and bustle*)

**hus-tler** /'hæslə/ *n* **1** *infml* an active busy person, esp. one who tries to persuade people to buy things, etc. **2** *sl, esp. AmE* a male PROSTITUTE **3** *AmE sl* a swindler (SWINDLE)

**Hus-ton** /'hjuːstən/, **John** (1906–87) an American filmmaker who is known for *The Treasure of the Sierra Madre*, *The African Queen*, and many others

**hut** /hʌt/ *n* a small simply-made building, usu. for living or working in: *They lived in a mud hut.* | *a wooden hut* —compare SHED<sup>1</sup>

**hutch** /hʌtʃ/ *n* **1** a small box or cage with one side made of wire, esp. one for keeping rabbits in **2** *AmE for* WELSH DRESSER

**Hux-ley** /'hʌksli/, **Al-dous** /'ɔːldəs/ (1894–1963) a British writer whose most famous book, *Brave New World*, is about a society of the future which appears to be controlled by kindly means but which offers people little freedom

**hy-a-cinth** /'haɪəsɪnθ/ *n* a plant with a head of bell-shaped flowers and a sweet smell, which grows from a BULB below the ground and opens in spring

**hy-ae-na** /haɪ'aɪnə/ *n* a HYENA

**hy-brid** /'haɪbrɪd/ *n* **1** a living thing produced from parents of different breeds: *The hybrid from a donkey and a horse is called a mule.* **2** a machine that contains parts of different machines

**Hyde** /haɪd/, **Mr** see JEKYLL AND HYDE

**Hyde Park** /, 'hɪd- / **1** a large London park where people go to walk or to relax —see also SPEAKER'S CORNER and see colour map on page 817 **2** a large neighbourhood on the S side of Chicago, where the University of Chicago is based

**Hyde Park Cor-ner** /, 'hɪd- / a busy meeting place of several roads at the SE corner of Hyde Park, London

**hy-dra** /'haɪdrə/ *n* **1** (in ancient Greek stories) a snake with many heads which grew again when they were cut off **2** an evil thing which is difficult to destroy

**hy-dran-gea** /haɪ'dreɪndʒə/ *n* a plant which grows as a bush with its brightly-coloured flowers growing in large round groups

**hy-drant** /'haɪdrənt/ *n* a water pipe in the street from which one may take water from the public supply, esp. for putting out a fire

**hy-drate** /'haɪdreɪt/ *n* [C;U] *tech* (often in comb.) a combination of a chemical substance with water

**hy-draul-ic** /haɪ'drɒlɪk, -'drɔː-||-'drɔː-/ *adj* concerning or moved by the pressure of water or other liquids: *a hydraulic pump* | *hydraulic brakes* — ~ally /kli/ *adv*

**hy-draul-ics** /haɪ'drɒlɪks, -'drɔː-||-'drɔː-/ *n* [U] the science which studies the use of water to produce power

**hydro-** see WORD FORMATION

**hy-dro-car-bon** /,haɪdrə'kɑːbən||-'kɑːr-/ *n* a chemical compound of HYDROGEN and CARBON, such as petrol

**hy-dro-chlor-ic ac-id** /,haɪdrəklɒrɪk 'æsɪd||-klɔː-/ *n* [U] an acid containing HYDROGEN and CHLORINE

**hy-dro-e-lec-tric** /,haɪdrəʊ-ɪ'lektrɪk/ *adj* concerning or producing electricity by the power of falling water: *a*

*hydroelectric power station* | *a country with good hydroelectric resources* — ~ally /kli/ *adv*

**hy-dro-foil** /'haɪdrəfɔɪl/ *n* a large motorboat fitted with an apparatus which raises it out of the water when it moves at high speed —compare HOVERCRAFT

**hy-dro-gen** /'haɪdrədʒən/ *n* [U] a gas that is a simple substance (ELEMENT), without colour or smell, is lighter than air, and burns very easily: *Water contains hydrogen and oxygen.* —see also HEAVY HYDROGEN

**hy-dro-ge-nat-ed oil** /,haɪdrədʒəneɪtɪd 'ɔɪl || haɪ'drɔːdʒɪd-/ *n* [C;U] oil which has been chemically changed from a liquid to a solid, usu. for use in prepared foods. This changes it from an UNSATURATED FAT to a SATURATED FAT, which is considered much less healthy.

**hydrogen bomb** /'...-/ also **H-bomb**, **fusion bomb**— *n* a very powerful NUCLEAR bomb using HEAVY HYDROGEN which explodes when the central parts of the atoms join together

**hydrogen per-ox-ide** /, '...- 'ɔɪd-/ *n* [U] *tech for* PEROXIDE

**hy-dro-pho-bi-a** /,haɪdrə'fəʊbiə/ *n* [U] **1** *tech for* RABIES **2** fear of water

**hy-dro-plane** /'haɪdrəpleɪn/ *v* [I] *AmE* AQUAPLANE

**hy-dro-pon-ics** /,haɪdrə'pɒnɪks||-'pɑː-/ *n* [U] the science of growing plants in water with chemical substances added, rather than in soil —~ic *adj*

**hy-dro-ther-a-py** /,haɪdrəʊ'θerəpi/ *n* [U] the treatment of illnesses by the use of water, esp. by bathing and exercising parts of the body in water containing special chemical substances. Hydrotherapy is a form of COMPLEMENTARY MEDICINE and is not used on its own to treat serious diseases.

**hy-e-na**, **hyaena** /haɪ'aɪnə/ *n* an African and Asian animal, rather like a dog, which eats meat, often from animals already dead, and has a wild cry like a laugh

**hy-giene** /'haɪdʒiːn/ *n* [U] **1** the study and practice of how to keep good health and prevent the spreading of disease, esp. by paying attention to cleanness: *public hygiene* (=keeping public places, esp. restaurants etc., clean) **2** habitual cleanness generally

**hy-gien-ic** /haɪ'dʒiːnɪk||-'dʒe-, -'dʒiː-/ *adj* showing careful attention to cleanness, esp. so that disease will not be spread: *The food is processed in an up-to-date factory in very hygienic conditions.* —opposite **unhygienic** — ~ally /kli/ *adv*

**hy-gien-ist** /'haɪdʒiːnɪst, haɪ'dʒiːnɪst/ || **dental hygienist** *AmE*— *n* a person who helps a DENTIST by looking after the cleanness and health of teeth

**hy-men** /'haɪmən/ *n* a fold of skin partly closing the entrance (VAGINA) to the sex organs of a VIRGIN (=a woman who has never had sex)

**hy-me-ne-al** /,haɪmə'nɪəl- / *adj* *poet* of marriage

**hymn**<sup>1</sup> /hɪm/ *n* a song of praise, esp. to God, usu. one of the religious songs of the Christian church which all the people sing together during a service

**hymn**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T] *poet* to sing (praise)

**hym-nal** /'hɪmnəl/ also **hymn book** /'...-/ *n* a book containing written hymns

**Hymns An-cient and Mod-ern** /, '...- 'ɔɪd-/ a standard book of hymns much used in the Church of England

**hype**<sup>1</sup> /haɪp/ *v* [T] *infml, often derog* to try to get a lot of public attention for, especially more than is deserved: *hype-ing their latest record with a lot of interviews*

**hype**<sup>2</sup> *n* [U] *infml, often derog* attempts to get a lot of public attention for things or people by saying loudly and often that they are very good, or better than they really are: *media hype*

**hyped up** /, '...-/ *adj* [F] *infml* very excited and anxious: *getting all hyped up about the exams*

**hy-per** /'haɪpə/ *adj* *infml, esp. AmE* very excitable; MANIC

**hyper-** see WORD FORMATION

**hy-per-ac-tive** /,haɪpər'æktɪv/ *adj* too active; unable to rest or be quiet: *hyperactive children*

**hy-per-bo-la** /haɪ'pɜːbələ||-'zɪr-/ *n* a curve whose two ends are always going away from each other and are never parallel

**hy-per-bo-le** /haɪ'pɜːbəli||-'zɪr-/ *n* [C;U] (an example of) a way of describing something in order to make it sound bigger,



smaller, better, worse, etc. than it really is: *To say "This chair weighs a ton" is an example of hyperbole.*

**hy-per-bol-ic** /ˌhaɪpəˈbɒlɪk-||-pərˈbɑː-/ *adj* **1** of or tending to use hyperbole **2** of or like a hyperbola — **~ally** /kli/ *adv*

**hy-per-crit-i-cal** /ˌhaɪpəˈkrɪtɪkəl-||-pər-/ *adj* [(of)] too eager to see faults or things which are wrong, rather than noticing the good qualities; too CRITICAL — **~ly** /kli/ *adv*

**hy-per-in-fla-tion** /ˌhaɪpərɪnˈfleɪʃən/ *n* [U] economic INFLATION (=continuous rise in prices) at such a fast rate that people lose confidence in their economic system and find ways to avoid using it. Hyperinflation is usu. seen in poor countries, and often after wars.

**hy-per-mar-ket** /ˌhaɪpəˈmɑːkɪt-||-pərˈmɑːr-/ *n* BrE a very large SUPERMARKET which is often built outside a town

**hy-per-sen-si-tive** /ˌhaɪpəˈsensɪtɪv-||-pər-/ *adj* [(to, about)] unusually sensitive; having feelings which are too easily hurt: *hypersensitive to cold* | *hypersensitive about her appearance* — **-tivity** /ˌhaɪpəsensɪˈtɪvɪti-||-pər-/ [U] (to, about)]

**hy-per-ten-sion** /ˌhaɪpəˈtenʃən-||-pər-/ *n* med an illness caused by having high blood pressure

**hy-phen** /ˈhaɪfən/ *n* a short written or printed line (-) which can join words or SYLLABLES: "Co-operate" can be written with a hyphen. — compare DASH<sup>2</sup> (4)

**hy-phen-ate** /ˈhaɪfəneɪt/ *v* [T] to join with a hyphen — **-ation** /ˌhaɪfəˈneɪʃən/ *n* [U]

**hyp-no-sis** /hɪpˈnəʊsɪs/ *n* [U] (the production of) a sleep-like state in which a person's mind and actions can be influenced by the person who produced the state: *Under hypnosis (=while in a state of hypnosis) the patient described her early childhood in great detail.* — **-tic** /hɪpˈnɒtɪk-||-ˈnɑː-/ *adj* — **-tically** /kli/ *adv*

**hyp-no-ther-a-pist** /ˌhɪpnəʊˈθerəpɪst/ *n* a person who practises hypnotherapy. It is not necessary to be a doctor to be a hypnotherapist.

**hyp-no-ther-a-py** /ˌhɪpnəʊˈθerəpi/ *n* [U] the use of hypnosis to treat people who are mentally or physically ill or who have problems of behaviour. Hypnotherapy is a form of ALTERNATIVE MEDICINE and is not used on its own to treat serious diseases.

**hyp-no-tis-m** /ˈhɪpnətɪzəm/ *n* [U] the practice of hypnosis

**hyp-no-tist** /ˈhɪpnətɪst/ *n* a person who practises hypnotism, esp. in public for entertainment, and can produce HYPNOSIS

**hyp-no-tize** also **-tise** BrE /ˈhɪpnətaɪz/ *v* [T] to produce HYPNOSIS in: (fig.) *hypnotized by her lovely singing*

**hy-po** /ˈhaɪpeɪ/ *n* **hypos** *infml* a HYPODERMIC

**hypo-al-ler-gen-ic** /ˌhaɪpəʊæləˈdʒenɪk-||-lə-/ *adj* (of COSMETICS or jewellery) not causing infection or allergies (ALLERGY)

**hy-po-chon-dri-a** /ˌhaɪpəˈkɒndriə-||-ˈkɑːn-/ *n* [U] a state of unnecessary anxiety and worry about one's health

**hy-po-chon-dri-ac** /ˌhaɪpəˈkɒndriæk-||-ˈkɑːn-/ *n* a person suffering from hypochondria — **hypochondriac** *adj*

**hy-poc-ri-sy** /hɪˈpɒkrɪsi-||-ˈpɑː-/ *n* [U] the act of pretending

to believe, feel, or be something very different from, and usu. better than, what one actually believes, feels, or is; extreme insincerity: *The government's claim to be concerned about unemployment is sheer hypocrisy.*

**hyp-o-crite** /ˈhɪpəkrɪt/ *n* a person who says one thing and does another, usu. something worse; someone who practises hypocrisy: *He's such a hypocrite: he claims to be a socialist but he sends his children to an expensive private school.* — **-critical** /ˌhɪpəˈkrɪtɪkəl-||-pər-/ *adj* — **-critically** /kli/ *adv*

**hy-po-der-mic**<sup>1</sup> /ˌhaɪpəˈdʒɪmɪk-||-ˈzɪr-/ *n* an instrument with a hollow needle for putting drugs directly into the body through the skin; small SYRINGE for medical use

**hypodermic**<sup>2</sup> *adj* (of an instrument or substance put into the body) which is made to enter or injected (INJECT) beneath the skin: *a hypodermic needle/injection* — **~ally** /kli/ *adv*

**hy-pot-e-nuse** /haɪˈpɒtɪnjuːz-||-ˈpɑːtənʊz, -nuːz/ *n* the longest side of a RIGHT-ANGLED TRIANGLE (=three-sided figure), which is opposite the RIGHT ANGLE (=angle of 90 degrees) — see picture at TRIANGLE

**hy-pò-ther-mi-a** /ˌhaɪpəʊˈθɜːmiə-||-ˈzɪr-/ *n* [U] a serious medical condition in which the body temperature falls below the usual level, esp. as happens to old people during cold weather: *They died of hypothermia.*

**hy-poth-e-sis** /haɪˈpɒθɪsɪs-||-ˈpɑː-/ *n* — **-ses** /sɪz/ an idea which is suggested as a possible way of explaining facts, proving an argument, etc.: *If we accept this hypothesis, it may provide an explanation for the recent changes in the weather.* [+that] *He put forward the hypothesis that the bones belonged to an extinct type of reptile.*

**hy-po-thet-i-cal** /ˌhaɪpəˈθetɪkəl-||-pər-/ *adj* based only on a suggestion that has not been proved or shown to be real; imaginary: *She asked me how I would deal with the problem if I were the president, but that is a purely hypothetical situation.* (=because I am not and never will be the president) — **~ly** /kli/ *adv*

**hys-ter-ec-to-my** /ˌhɪstəˈrektəmi/ *n* [C;U] the medical operation for removing the WOMB (=the female organ in which a baby develops before birth)

**hys-te-ri-a** /hɪˈstɪəriə-||-ˈsteriə/ *n* [U] **1** a condition of nervous excitement in which the sufferer laughs and cries uncontrollably and/or shows strange changes in behaviour or physical state **2** wild uncontrolled excitement, esp. of a crowd of people: *News of the victory produced mass hysteria in the streets of the capital.* — **-ric** /hɪˈsterɪk/ *n*

**hys-ter-i-cal** /hɪˈsterɪkəl/ *adj* **1** (of people) in a state of hysteria: *They became hysterical after the accident.* **2** (of feelings, words, etc.) expressed wildly, in an uncontrolled manner: *hysterical crying/laughter* | *a hysterical statement* (=made as a result of hysteria) **3** *infml* extremely funny: *You should go and see the film — it's absolutely hysterical.* — **~ly** /kli/ *adv*

**hys-ter-ics** /hɪˈsterɪks/ *n* [P] an attack of hysteria: *He always has hysterics at the sight of blood.* | *The clown had the children in hysterics.* (=made them laugh uncontrollably)

**Hz** written abbrev. for: HERTZ



# I

**I** <sup>1</sup> /aɪ/ **I's, i's or Is, is** **1** the ninth letter of the English alphabet **2** the ROMAN NUMERAL representing the number one

**I** <sup>2</sup> *pron* (used as the subject of a sentence) the person speaking: *I hurt my hand.* | *I'm not late, am I?* | *I'm next, aren't I?* (fml) *am I not?* —see ME (USAGE)

**I** <sup>3</sup> *AmE abbrev. for* INTERSTATE: *driving on the I70*

**IA** *written abbrev. for* IOWA

**I-a-coc-ca** /ˌaɪəˈkəʊkə/, **Lee** (1924– ) an American businessman who greatly increased the profits made by the car company Chrysler at a time when the company had not been very successful. Iacocca also wrote a best-selling AUTOBIOGRAPHY in the early 1980s while he was still famous for his work with Chrysler.

**I-a-go** /iˈɑːɡəʊ/ a character in William Shakespeare's play *Othello*. Iago ruins the life of his friend Othello by telling lies about Othello's wife. Someone who is **Iagoesque** deceives people who should be able to trust him.

**i-amb** /ˈaɪəmb/ also **i-am-bus** /aɪˈæmbəs/ — *n-s* /ˈaɪəmbz/ *tech* a measure of poetry consisting of one weak (or short) beat followed by one strong (or long) beat, as in “alive” —compare TROCHEE — **~ic** /aɪˈæmbɪk/ *adj*, *n*: *written in iambic lines* / *iambics*

**iambic pen-tam-e-ter** /ˌɪəmbɪk ˈpɛntəmɛtər/ *n* [U;C] a common measure in English poetry, each line consisting of five iambic FEET (=divisions of the line) —compare HEROIC COUPLET

**IATA** /aɪˈɑːtə/ *abbrev. for* INTERNATIONAL AIR TRANSPORT ASSOCIATION

**IBA** /ˌaɪ biː ˈeɪ/ *n* [the] Independent Broadcasting Authority; the organization representing those British television broadcasting companies which are paid for by advertisers. It will be replaced by the ITC in 1993.

**I-beam** /ˈaɪ biːm/ *n* *AmE* a kind of steel beam used in large buildings which, when looked at from an end, looks like a capital I

**I-be-ri-a** /aɪˈbɛəriə/ Spain and Portugal considered together — **-rian** *adj*: *the Iberian peninsula*

**i-bex** /ˈaɪbɛks/ *n* **ibexes or ibex** a wild goat of the Alps and Pyrenees

**ib-id** /ˈɪbɪd/ also **ib-i-dem** /ˈɪbɪdem, ɪˈbaɪdem/ — *adv Lat* in the same place, usu. in a (part of a) book already mentioned

**i-bis** /ˈaɪbɪs/ *n* **ibises or ibis** a large bird with a long curved beak, living in warm wet areas, which was considered SACRED in ancient Egypt

**I-bi-za** /ɪˈbɪzə, aɪ-/ a Spanish island SW of Majorca, where many European people go on holiday

**IBM** /ˌaɪ biː ˈem/ International Business Machines; a very large American-based international business computer company

**IBM-com-pat-i-ble** <sup>1</sup> /ˌɪbm ˈkɒmpətaɪbəl/ *n* a computer which is very similar to the PERSONAL COMPUTERS made by IBM, and can be connected with these machines and can use the same DISKS and equipment as these machines

**IBM-compatible** <sup>2</sup> *adj* (of a computer, a piece of computer equipment, etc.) that can be used with a PERSONAL COMPUTER made by IBM: *Is your printer IBM-compatible?*

**Ib-sen** /ˈɪbsən/, **Hen-rik** /ˈhenrɪk/ (1826–1906) a Norwegian writer of plays known esp. for writing about social problems and criticizing social CONVENTIONS

**IC** /ˌaɪ ˈsiː/ *n, adj* INTEGRATED CIRCUIT: *IC technology*

**ICA** /ˌaɪ siː ˈeɪ/ [the] Institute of Contemporary Arts; a building in London where modern paintings, films, etc. are shown. The ICA is generally considered to be politically LEFT-WING and some of its EXHIBITIONS cause a lot of argument and discussion.

**Ic-a-rus** /ˈɪkərəs/ in CLASSICAL MYTHOLOGY, a Greek man who tried to fly using wings held together with WAX. The wax melted when he got too near the sun and he fell and died. —see also DAEDALUS



Icarus

**ICBM** /ˌaɪ siː biː ˈem/ *n* intercontinental ballistic missile; a MISSILE that can be fired a very great distance

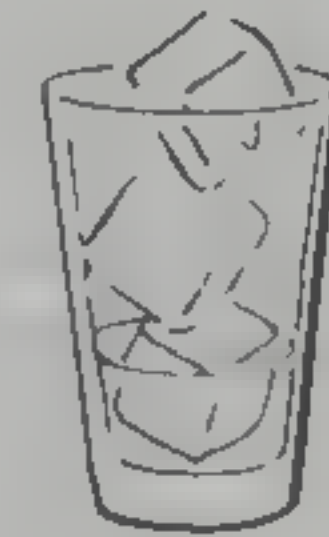
**ICC** /ˌaɪ siː ˈsiː/ *abbrev. for* INTERSTATE COMMERCE COMMISSION

**ice** <sup>1</sup> /aɪs/ *n* **1** [U] water which has frozen to a solid as a result of reaching a very low temperature: *ice on the lake in winter* | *Her hands were like ice* / *were as cold as ice.* | *The ice has melted.* **2** [C] old-fash, esp. *BrE* a serving of ice cream: *Two ices, please.* **3** [C] also **water ice** *BrE* || **sherbet** *AmE* — a type or a serving of a cold sweet food like ice cream, but made with fruit juice instead of milk or cream **4** [U] *AmE* old fash sl jewellery, esp. diamonds **5** **keep/put something on ice** take no immediate action about something: *Let's keep that suggestion on ice for now.* —see also ICY, BLACK ICE, DRY ICE, **break the ice** (BREAK<sup>1</sup> (25)), **cut no ice** (CUT<sup>1</sup> (25)), **skating on thin ice** (SKATE<sup>2</sup>)



ice cream

ice-cream soda



ice cube

**ice** <sup>2</sup> *v* [T] **1** to make very cold by using ice: *iced drinks* **2** also **frost** *AmE* to cover (a cake) with ICING (=a mixture of fine powdery sugar and liquid)

**ice over/up** *phr v* [I;T] (=ice sthg. ↔ **over/up**) *usu. pass.* to (cause to) become covered with ice: *The lake iced over during the night.* | *It's too dangerous to drive — the roads are all iced up.*

**ice age** /ˈɪs ˌeɪʒ/ *n* (often *cap.*) any of several periods when ice covered many northern countries

**ice axe** /ˈɪs ˌæks/ *n* an ICE PICK

**ice-ball** /ˈaɪsbɔːl/ *n* [U] a team game played on ice in which the ball is passed by throwing with the aim of getting GOALS

**ice-berg** /ˈaɪsbɜːg/ *n* a very large piece of ice floating in the sea, most of which is below the surface: *The ship struck an iceberg and sank.* —see also **the tip of the iceberg** (TIP<sup>1</sup> (4))

iceberg



**iceberg let-tuce** /ˌaɪsbɜːg ˈletʃ/ *n* [C;U] a round LETTUCE whose leaves are fairly firm when fresh

**ice-box** /ˈaɪsbɒks/ *n* **1** a box where food is kept cool with blocks of ice **2** *AmE for* FRIDGE

**ice-break-er** /ˈaɪsbreɪkər/ *n* **1** a ship which cuts a passage through floating ice **2** *AmE* something which makes a situation easier or less tense: “We’ve got to have a good icebreaker to help everyone get to know each other.”

**ice buck-et** /ˈɪs ˌbʌkɪt/ *n* **1** a container with pieces of ice in it, used for keeping wine cool, e.g. in a restaurant: *The girl was very impressed when the waiter appeared with a bottle of champagne and an ice bucket.* **2** a container with pieces of ice in it for adding to drinks such as WHISKY or GIN, in a BAR<sup>1</sup> (3)



**ice cap** /'iː.ə/ also **ice sheet**— *n* a lasting covering of ice, such as that on the North and South Poles

**ice-cold** /iː.ə/ *adj* extremely cold; as cold as ice: *ice-cold drinks/hands*

**ice cream** /iː.ə/ *n* [C;U] (a type or a serving of) a soft sweet mixture which is frozen and eaten cold, typically containing milk products and often eggs: *Two ice creams, please.* | *chocolate ice cream* | *an ice-cream cone* —see picture at ICE

**ice-cream so-da** /iː.ə/ also **soda**— *n* a dish made from ice cream, sweet SYRUP, and SODA WATER, usu. served in a tall glass —see picture at ICE

**ice cube** /iː.ə/ *n* a cube of ice, often used to cool alcoholic or soft drinks —see picture at ICE

**iced cof-fee** /iː.ə/ *n* [C;U] (a glass of) cold coffee with ice and usu. milk, popular in the US as a summer drink

**iced tea** /iː.ə/ *n* [C;U] (a glass of) cold tea, often served with LEMON or sugar in the US and Canada, and drunk esp. in the summer

**ice floe** /iː.ə/ *n* a sheet of ice floating on the sea

**ice hock-ey** /iː.ə/ also **hockey** *esp. AmE* — *n* [U] a team game like HOCKEY played on ice. Ice hockey is very popular in Canada and is the national sport. —compare FIELD HOCKEY

**Ice-land** /'aɪslənd/ an island country in the Atlantic ocean just south of the Arctic Circle; capital Reykjavik; population 252,000 (1989) — *~er n*

**Ice-land-ic** /aɪs'lændɪk/ *adj* of Iceland, its people, or their language

**ice lol-ly** /iː.ə/ *BrE* || **Popsicle** *AmE tdmk* — *n* a piece of sweet-tasting ice on a stick. Ice lollies often taste of fruit

**ice-man** /'aɪs-mæn/ *n* -men /men/ *AmE* (esp. in former times) a man who delivers ice to the home for use in an ICEBOX

**I-ce-ni** /aɪ'siːnaɪ, -ni/ [*the*+P] an ancient British tribe of E England who fought against the Romans under the command of their queen, Boudicca

**ice pack** /iː.ə/ *n* a bag containing ice, used to make parts of the body cool esp. where there is a pain or INJURY —see also PACK ICE

**ice pick** /iː.ə/ also **ice axe**— *n* a tool for breaking ice —see picture at AXE

**ice rink** /iː.ə/ *n* a specially prepared surface of ice for skating (SKATE)

**ice sheet** /iː.ə/ *n* an ICE CAP

ice-skating



**ice-skate** /iː.ə/ *v* [I] to SKATE on ice —see colour picture on page 1212 —**ice-skater n** —**ice-skating n** [U]: *Ice-skating is my favourite winter sport.*

**ice skate** /iː.ə/ *n* a SKATE that is worn on the feet for moving over ice —compare ROLLER SKATE; see PAIR<sup>1</sup> (USAGE)

**ice wa-ter** /iː.ə/ *n* [U] water made very cold and used esp. for drinking

**Ich-a-bod Crane** /ɪkəbəd 'kreɪn || -baɪd-/ the main character in the story *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow* by Washington Irving. In the story, he is frightened by what he thinks is a headless man riding a horse. —see colour picture on page 620

**I Ching** /aɪ 'tʃɪŋ, ɪz 'dʒɪŋ/ [*the*] an ancient Chinese book, also called the Book of Changes, which some people believe helps you to understand things which are happening in your daily life and tells you what is going to happen in the future

**ich-neu-mon fly** /ɪk'nju:mən flaɪ||-'nuː-/ *n* an insect which lays eggs inside the LARVA (=the young) of another insect

**ICI** /aɪ sɪz 'aɪ/ Imperial Chemical Industries; a large international company which makes and sells drugs, paints, FERTILIZERS etc. all over the world and does a lot of RESEARCH. People often mention ICI when they want to give an example of a very large company.

**i-ci-cle** /'aɪsɪkəl/ *n* a pointed stick of ice formed when water freezes as it runs down or falls in small drops: *icicles hanging from the roof*

**ic-ing** /'aɪsɪŋ/ *esp. BrE* || also **frosting** *AmE* — *n* [U] a mixture of fine powdery sugar with liquid, used to cover cakes: *chocolate/lemon icing* | (fig.) *All those nice extras they're offering are just the icing on the cake: is the plan itself any good?*

**icing sug-ar** /'iː.ə/ also **powdered sugar** *AmE* — *n* [U] the very fine powdery sugar used to make icing

**ick-y** /'ɪki/ *adj infml* very unpleasant, but in a usu. harmless way: *What icky weather for a picnic!* | *These dump-lings look really icky, I hope they taste good.* —**ickiness n** [U]

**i-con, ikon** /'aɪkən||-kaɪn/ *n* 1 a picture or figure of a holy person, used in worship by the Eastern branches of Christianity 2 a famous person, admired by many people, who is believed to represent something important: *Marilyn Monroe is an icon of popular culture.* 3 a small sign shown on a computer SCREEN which, when you point to it with a MOUSE (3), makes the computer perform a particular operation

**i-con-o-clast** /aɪ'kɒnəklast||-'kɑː-/ *n* a person who attacks established beliefs or customs — *~ic* /aɪ,kɒnə'klæstɪk||-'kɑː-/ *adj*

**ICU** /aɪ sɪz 'juː/ *n AmE med* intensive care unit; a place in a hospital for people who are very sick: *After his brain surgery he was in an ICU for two days.*

**ic-y** /'aɪsi/ *adj* 1 extremely cold: *My hands are icy.* | *an icy wind from the north* | (fig.) *She gave me an icy look.* 2 covered with ice: *Icy roads are dangerous.* —**icily adv** —**iciness n** [U]

**I'd** /aɪd/ *short for:* 1 I had: *I'd gone.* | (*esp. BrE*) *I'd no time left.* 2 I would: *I decided I'd go.*

**id** /ɪd/ *n* (in Freudian PSYCHOLOGY) the one of the three parts of the mind that is completely unconscious, but has needs and desires —compare EGO (2), SUPEREGO

**I-da-ho** /'aɪdəhəʊ/ *written abbrev. ID—* a STATE in the NW of the US, known for its farming, esp. of potatoes —see colour map on pages 1374–5

**ID card** /aɪ 'dɪz kɑːd||-kɑːrd/ *n* an IDENTITY CARD

**i-dea** /aɪ'diə/ *n* 1 [C] a plan, thought, or suggestion for a possible course of action: *What a good idea!* | *Somebody had the bright idea of recording the meeting.* | *a meeting to discuss new ideas* | *What gave you the idea for the book?* [+to-v|that] *It was Mary's idea to hold that we should hold the party outside.* 2 [C;U (of)] a picture in the mind; CONCEPTION: *I've got a fairly good idea of what they want.* | *Have you any idea of what I'm trying to explain?* | *The very idea of going sailing (=just thinking about it) makes me feel seasick.* | *His idea of a good night out is getting drunk and fighting with his friends.* 3 [C;U (of)] knowledge or understanding: *The report will give you an idea/give you some idea of the problems involved.* [+wh-] *I haven't the slightest idea who she is.* (=I don't know at all) | *You have no idea how worried I was!* (=I was extremely worried) | *It was so hot — you've no idea!* 4 [C] a guess; feeling that something is probable: *I don't know where she is, but I've got a pretty good idea.* [+ (that)] *I've an idea that she likes him better than anyone else.* | *You thought I was the boss? Whatever gave you that idea?* 5 [C] an opinion or belief: *She's got some pretty strange political ideas.* [+that] *This discovery disproved the idea that the world was flat.* 6 [the (of)] a plan or intention: *She went shopping with the idea of buying some shoes, but bought some boots instead.* | *I thought the idea was to go for a drink after work.* | *What was the idea of telling him that?* (usu. used to suggest that something was a bad idea) 7 **get the idea (that)** to come to believe (often mistakenly): *Don't get the wrong idea: I really like her.* 8 **put ideas in someone's head** to make someone hope for things they cannot have 9 **The idea!/What an idea!** (an expression of surprise at a strange thought or suggestion, or of disagreement with a silly thought or suggestion)



**ideal**<sup>1</sup> /aɪ'diəl/ *adj* **1** perfect in every way: *an ideal marriage* | *It's an ideal place for a holiday.* **2** [(for)] very suitable: *This picture book is ideal for young children.* **3** expressing possible perfection which is unlikely to exist in the real world: *the ideal system of government* —see also IDEALLY

**ideal**<sup>2</sup> *n* **1** [often *pl.*] (a belief in) high principles or perfect standards: *a woman with/of high ideals* | *They share our democratic ideals.* **2** [(of)] a perfect example: *That's my ideal of what a house should be like.*

**Ideal Home** /i.. 'l/ a British magazine containing photographs of, and articles about, beautiful homes, with ideas on how to make one's own home more attractive

**Ideal Home Ex-hi-bi-tion** /i.. 'l. .../ [the] an EXHIBITION of furniture and objects for the house, held every year in London

**ideal-is-m** /aɪ'diəlɪzəm/ *n* [U] **1** the quality or habit of living according to one's ideals, or the belief that such a way of life is possible: *youthful idealism* —compare MATERIALISM **2** (in art) the principle of showing the world in a perfect form, although such perfection may not exist —compare REALISM (2), NATURALISM (1)

**ideal-ist** /aɪ'diəlɪst/ *n* sometimes *derog* a person who tries to live according to high principles or perfect standards, often in a way that is impractical or shows a lack of understanding of the real world: *a youthful idealist* —~ *ic* /aɪ'diəlɪstɪk/ *adj* —~ *ically* /kli/ *adv*

**ideal-ize** also **-ise** *BrE* /aɪ'diəlaɪz/ *v* [T] to imagine or represent as perfect or as better than reality: *He tends to idealize the time he spent in the army.* | *Her books give a rather idealized picture of life in 19th-century England.* | *The theory works only when applied to an idealized model of language.* —**ization** /aɪ'diəlaɪ'zeɪʃən/ *n* [C;U]

**ideal-ly** /aɪ'diəli/ *adv* **1** in an ideal way: *ideally beautiful* | *ideally suited* **2** in an ideal situation; if conditions were perfect: *Ideally, we should have twice as much office space as we have now.*

**idem** /'ɪdem, 'aɪdem/ *pron Lat* (of a book, writer, etc., already mentioned) the same

**iden-ti-cal** /aɪ'dentɪkəl/ *adj* **1** [(to, with)] exactly alike: *two sisters with identical voices* | *Your voice is identical to hers.* **2** the same: *This is the identical hotel we stayed at last year.* —**cally** /kli/ *adv*

**identical twin** /-... 'l/ *n* [usu. *pl.*] either of a pair of children or animals born from one egg of the mother and usu. looking extremely alike

**iden-ti-fi-ca-tion** /aɪ'dentɪfɪ'keɪʃən/ *n* [U] **1** the act of identifying or fact of being identified: *The body had been badly burned so identification was difficult.* **2** something (such as an official paper) which is proof or a sign of identity: *Let me see your identification.* | *His only means of identification was his passport.* | *baggage identification tags* | *vehicle identification numbers* **3** [(with)] the feeling that one shares the ideas, feelings, problems, etc. of another person, esp. a character in a story: *his identification with the hero of the book*

**identification pa-rade** /-... 'l. .../ *BrE* || **line-up** *AmE*— *n* a process by which a person who saw a crime take place is asked by the police to look at a group of people and say which one took part in the crime

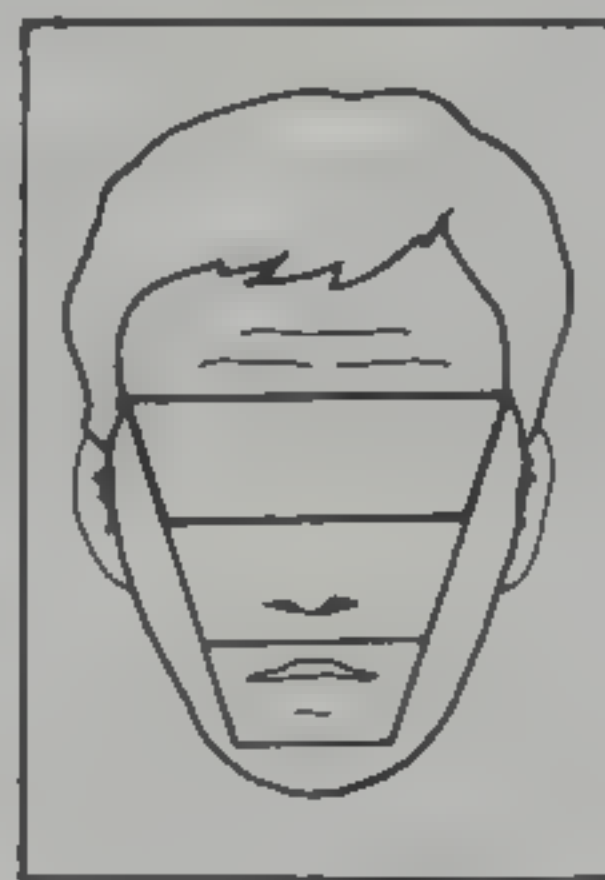
**iden-ti-fy** /aɪ'dentɪfaɪ/ *v* [T] **1** [(as)] to prove or show the identity of: *She was asked to identify the criminal.* | *She identified herself to the police as the driver of the vehicle.* | *The dead man has been identified as Mr James Gould.* **2** to discover or recognize: *They have now identified the main cause of the problem.*

**identify with** *phr v* [T] **1** (identify with sbdy./sthg.) to feel one shares (the ideas, feelings, problems, etc.) of (someone, esp. a person in a story): *Reading this book, we can identify with the main character/with the main character's struggle.* **2** (identify sbdy. with sthg.) to cause or consider (someone) to be connected with: *He is too closely identified with the previous administration to be given a job in this one.*

**iden-ti-kit** /aɪ'dentɪkɪt/ *BrE* || **composite** *AmE*— *n* a collection of photographs or DRAWINGS of parts of faces which can be fitted together to produce pictures of different faces, so that witnesses to a crime may choose the face that looks most like that of the criminal: *Police have issued an identikit picture of the killer.* | (fig.) *identikit pop*

*stars who all look and sound alike* —compare CLONE (2), PHOTOFIT

identikit



**iden-ti-ty** /aɪ'dentɪti/ *n* **1** [C;U] who or what a particular person or thing is: *The identity of the murdered woman has not yet been established.* | *She experienced a loss of identity/an identity crisis after giving up her career to get married.* (=felt as if she lacked self-confidence and had no particular purpose in life) **2** [U] sameness; exact likeness

**identity card** /-'... / also **ID card**— *n* a card with one's name, photograph, signature, etc., which proves one's identity

**ide-o-gram** /'ɪdiəgræm/ also **ide-o-graph** /-græf/— *n* a written sign (as in Chinese writing) which represents an idea or thing rather than the sound of a word

**ide-o-logue** /'aɪdiə'lɒg/—*n* usu. *derog* a person who is strongly influenced by a particular ideology and tries to follow it very closely

**ide-ol-o-gy** /aɪdi'ɒlədʒi/—*n* [C;U] sometimes *derog* a set of ideas, esp. one on which a political or economic system is based: *Marxist ideology* | *the free market ideology of the extreme right* —**ogical** /aɪdiə'lɒdʒɪkəl/—*adj* —**ogically** /kli/ *adv*: *Ideologically, they have many differences.* | *As a socialist, I don't feel that buying shares in companies sold off by the government is ideologically sound.*

**ides** /aɪdz/ *n* [P] *lit* (in the ancient Roman CALENDAR) a date or period of time around the middle of the month

**Ides of March** /-... 'l/ [the+P] March 15th, famous for being the day on which Julius Caesar was killed by a group of his former friends because they thought he had too much power. Caesar is supposed to have been warned by a FORTUNE-TELLER to "Beware the Ides of March."

**id-i-o-cy** /'ɪdiəsi/ *n* **1** [U] the state of being an idiot **2** [C] a stupid action

**id-i-o-lect** /'ɪdiəlekt/ *n* *tech* a particular person's use of language

**id-i-om** /'ɪdiəm/ *n* **1** a phrase which means something different from the meanings of the separate words from which it is formed: *To "kick the bucket" is an English idiom meaning "to die"* **2** the way of expression typical of a person or a group in their use of language: *the idiom of the young* | (fig.) *the new and exciting idiom of modern popular music*

**id-i-o-mat-ic** /'ɪdiə'mætɪk/ *adj* **1** of or containing an idiom: *To "kick the bucket" is an idiomatic expression.* **2** (of a word, way of speaking, etc.) typical of the natural speech of a person speaking in their first language: *a Frenchman who speaks idiomatic English* —~ *ally* /kli/ *adv*

**id-i-o-syn-cra-sy** /'ɪdiə'sɪŋkrəsi/ *n* a strange or unusual habit or way of behaving that a particular person has: *Keeping pet snakes is an idiosyncrasy of his.* —**cratic** /'ɪdiəsɪn'krætɪk/ *adj*

**id-i-ot** /'ɪdiət/ *n* **1** a foolish person: *What did you do that for, you idiot!* **2** *old use or tech* a person of very weak mind, usu. from birth —compare IMBECILE (2) —~ *ic* /'ɪdi'ɒtɪk/—*adj* —~ *ically* /kli/ *adv*

**idiot light** /'... / *n* *AmE* a light on the DASHBOARD of a car which goes on when something is wrong with the car: *The idiot light flashed on to show that the engine was about to overheat.*

**idle**<sup>1</sup> /'aɪdl/ *adj* **1** not working or operating productively: *Owing to the electricity strike, a lot of factory workers were left idle.* | *We can't afford to have all this expensive machinery lying idle.* | *the idle rich* (=rich people who do not work for a living) **2** lazy; wasting time —see also BONE-IDLE **3** not based on fact or good reason: *idle*



*rumour/gossip/talk* | His words were just idle threats: he can't hurt us. **4** [A] having no particular purpose: I don't know why I asked — just idle curiosity. — **idly** *adv* — **~ness** *n* [U]

**idle**<sup>2</sup> *v* [I] **1** to waste time doing nothing **2** (of an engine) to run slowly while disconnected from the TRANSMISSION: Put the car out of gear and let the engine idle. — **idler** *n* **idle away** *phr v* [T] to waste (time) doing nothing: We idled away the hours.

**i-dol** /'aɪdəl/ *n* **1** an image worshipped as a god **2** someone or something admired or loved too much: The football player was the idol of the younger boys.

**i-dol-a-ter** /aɪ'dɒlətəʳ/ — **i-dol-a-tress** /-trɪs/ *fem.* — *n* a worshipper of idols

**i-dol-a-trous** /aɪ'dɒlətrəs/ — **i-dol-a-try** /aɪ'dɒlətri/ — **i-dol-a-try** /aɪ'dɒlətri/ *n* [U] **1** the worship of idols **2** too great admiration of someone or something

**i-dol-ize** also **-ise** *BrE* /'aɪdəl-aɪz/ *v* [T] to treat as an idol: He idolizes his father. (=he loves or admires him too much and thinks he is perfect)

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**id-yl**, **idyl** /'ɪdɪl/ *n* a simple happy period of life, often in the country, or a scene (as if) from such a time: an idyll of two young lovers — **~ic** /ɪ'dɪlɪk/ *adj*: an idyllic scene — **~ically** /kli/ *adv*: idyllically happy

**i.e.** /aɪ 'i:z/ *abbrev.* id est; that is; by which is meant: The cinema is only open to adults, i.e. people over 18. — see NAMELY (USAGE)

**if**<sup>1</sup> /ɪf/ *conj* **1** (not usu. followed by the future tense) a on condition that: We'll go if the weather stays fine, but if it rains we'll stay at home. | If you promise not to tell anyone else, I'll tell you how much I paid for it. **b** supposing that: If she phones (fml) If she should phone, tell her I'm out. | Just ask John if you need any help (fml) should you need any help. | If he told you that, he was lying. | Get out of here at once. If not, I'll phone the police. | If John was/were here, he would know what to do. | If you'd listened to me (fml) Had you listened to me, you wouldn't be in such trouble now. **c** in any situation in which; whenever: If you pour oil on water, it floats. | If I go to bed late, I find it hard to get up in the morning. — see UNLESS (USAGE) **2** accepting that; although: a (often with even) We'll go even if it rains. (=We'll go, whether it rains or not.) | If she's poor, at least she's honest. **b** (joining nouns, adjectives, or adverbs): a pleasant if noisy child | It was a nice meal, if a little expensive. | Too sweet? — I thought it was a little dry, if anything. **3** (in reported questions, or after verbs like know, remember, or wonder) whether: Do you know if/whether she's coming? | I wonder if she isn't mistaken? (=I think she is.) | I'll see if he wants to talk to you. | Could you ask her if she'll be coming to the meeting? | I couldn't remember if you took sugar in your coffee or not. **4** (used like that after words expressing surprise, sorrow, or pleasure): I'm sorry if she's annoyed. | I don't care if she is ten years older than me — I love her. | Do you mind if I smoke? (=May I smoke?) **5** if I were you (used when giving advice): If I were you I'd leave at once. **6** it isn't/it's not as if (often expressing annoyance) it is not true that: I don't know why he's so mean — it isn't as if he hasn't got any money! (=he has plenty of money) — see also if you like (LIKE<sup>1</sup> (9))

▷ USAGE You can use *if* with *will/won't* when the meaning is "be willing": If you will just sign here please (=a polite request) I'll give you the money. | If you won't help me (=if you refuse) I'll shoot myself. Compare If he signs the cheque I'll be really happy. — see also WHETHER (USAGE), as if (AS<sup>2</sup>), even if (EVEN<sup>2</sup>), if only (ONLY<sup>2</sup>) <

**if**<sup>2</sup> *n* **ifs and buts** *BrE* || **ifs, ands, or buts** *AmE* reasons given for delay: I don't want any ifs and buts — just make sure the goods are delivered tomorrow!

**if-fy** /'ɪfi/ *adj infml* full of uncertainty: Until the contract is signed, we're in a rather iffy situation.

**ig-loo** /'ɪglu:/ *n* -loos a house made of hard icy blocks of snow, esp. as built by the Inuit — see picture at ESKIMO

**ig-ne-ous** /'ɪgniəs/ *adj tech* (of rocks) formed from LAVA

**ig-nis fat-u-us** /ɪ'gnɪs 'fætʃuəs/ || also **will-o'-the-wisp** *n* **ignes fatui** /ɪ'gni:z 'fætʃui:z/ [*usu. sing.*] Lat a moving light seen over wet ground because of the burning of waste gases

**ig-nite** /ɪg'nait/ *v* [I;T] *fml* to (cause to) start to burn

**ig-ni-tion** /ɪg'nɪʃən/ *n* [U] **1** the act or action of igniting **2** the means or apparatus for starting an engine (such as a car engine) by using electricity — see picture at CAR

**ig-no-ble** /ɪg'nəʊbəl/ *adj esp. lit* dishonourable; which one should be ashamed of — **bly** *adv*

**ig-no-min-i-ous** /ɪ'gnə'mɪniəs/ *adj* bringing or deserving strong (esp. public) disapproval; damaging to one's pride: an ignominious defeat | ignominious behaviour — **~ly** *adv*

**ig-no-mi-ny** /'ɪgnə'mɪni/ *n* **1** [U] a state of shame or dishonour **2** [C] an act of shameful behaviour

**ig-no-ra-mus** /ɪ'gnə'reɪməs/ *n* an ignorant person

**ig-no-rance** /'ɪgnərəns/ *n* [U (of)] **1** lack of knowledge, information, or consciousness, esp. of something one ought to know about: Ignorance of the law is no excuse. | The workers were kept in complete ignorance of the company's financial situation. | It shows appalling ignorance not to know who the present prime minister is. **2** ignorance is bliss saying if one does not know something, one cannot worry about it: "Have you seen the new plans yet?" "No, ignorance is bliss!"

**ig-no-rant** /'ɪgnərənt/ *adj* **1** [(of)] lacking knowledge, education, or consciousness, esp. of something one ought to know about: ignorant of even the simplest facts | I'm afraid I'm rather ignorant about computers. — see IGNORE (USAGE) **2** *infml* rude or impolite, esp. because of lack of social training **3** caused by or showing ignorance: ignorant ideas

**ig-nore** /ɪg'nɔ:ɪ/ *v* [T] to take no notice of; refuse to pay attention to: My advice was completely ignored. | The government would be unwise to ignore the growing dissatisfaction with its economic policies.

▷ USAGE Compare **ignore** and **be ignorant of**: He was driving very fast because he was ignorant of the fact that (=didn't know) there was a speed limit. | He ignored the speed limit (=he knew about it, but paid no attention to it) and drove very fast. <

**i-gua-na** /ɪ'gwɑ:nə/ *n* -nas or -na a large LIZARD of tropical America

**IKBS** /aɪ keɪ bi: 'es/ *n* intelligent knowledge-based system; a type of computer system that uses ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

**i-kon** /'aɪkən/ — **ka:n** *n* an ICON

**il-** see WORD FORMATION

**IL** *written abbrev. for* ILLINOIS

**ILEA** /'ɪliə, 'aɪ el i: 'eɪ-/ [*the*] Inner London Education Authority; an organization which used to be responsible for schools and colleges in London and which was closed down in 1990

**i-lex** /'aɪleks/ *n* **1** an OAK tree with EVERGREEN leaves **2** *tech* any of a family of trees and bushes including HOLLY

**Il-i-ad** /'ɪliəd, -əd/ *The* an ancient Greek poem by Homer about the Trojan War — compare ODYSSEY

**Il-i-um** /'ɪliəm/ see TROY

**ilk** /ɪlk/ *n* [S] kind, type, etc. (usu. in the phrase of that ilk)

**ill**<sup>1</sup> /ɪl/ *adj* worse /wɜ:z/ || wɜ:rs/, worst /wɜ:st/ || wɜ:rst/ **1** [F] not in good health; not well: She's ill, so she can't come. | ill with worry | She suddenly fell ill/was suddenly taken ill. (=became ill) | mentally ill

▷ USAGE In the US, **ill** and **sick** are used in almost the same way: He is very sick. | He is very ill. In Britain, the phrase *I feel sick* means that one's stomach is upset and one feels like vomiting (VOMIT<sup>1</sup>), but in the US it may mean that one is not well, has a sore throat, etc. In the US, **ill** is somewhat more formal than **sick**. — see also SICK (USAGE) <

**2** [F] *BrE* hurt; suffering in the stated way from the effects of INJURY: A week after the riots, two policemen were still seriously/critically ill in hospital with gunshot wounds. **3** [A] bad; harmful: ill luck | an ill omen | There's a lot of ill feeling (=jealousy, anger, etc.) about her being promoted.

**ill**<sup>2</sup> *adv* (often in comb.) **1** badly, cruelly, or unpleasantly: The child has been ill-treated. **2** not well; not enough; hardly: ill-suited to the job | ill-informed (=not having the right information or enough information) | I can ill afford the time to speak to you. | "I see one-third of a nation ill-housed, ill-clad, ill-nourished." (F. D. Roosevelt) **3**



**il·lus·tra·tive** /'iləstreɪtɪv, -strət-||ɪ'ləstrətɪv/ *adj* used for explaining the meaning of something: *an illustrative example* — see also ILLUSTRATE (2) — *~ly adv*



an optical illusion

Is this a vase or  
two faces?



**il-lus-tra-tor** /'ɪləstreɪtə/ *n* a person who draws pictures, esp. for a book

**il-lus-tri-ous** /'ɪləstriəs/ *adj* famous; widely known and admired for one's great works: *the illustrious name of Shakespeare* — *~ly adv*

**ill will** /ɪˌˈwɪl/ *n* [U] hatred or strong dislike; HOSTILITY: *Despite the way they treated her, she bears them no ill will.* (=does not feel ill will towards them)

**I Love Lucy** /ˌaɪ lʌv 'lʊsi/ an American television programme of the 1950s and 1960s which has Lucille Ball as its star. *I Love Lucy* is still popular in the US and old programmes are still shown on television. The character Lucy often gets involved in funny, complicated situations which she often tries to hide from her husband Ricky with the help of her neighbours Fred and Ethel Mertz.

**I'm** /aɪm/ *short for*: I am: *I'm a doctor.* | *I'm going now.*

**im-** see WORD FORMATION

**im-age** /'ɪmɪdʒ/ *n* 1 [C (of)] a picture formed in the mind: *She had a clear image of how she would look in twenty years' time.* 2 [C] a picture formed of an object in front of a mirror or LENS, such as the picture formed on the film inside a camera or one's REFLECTION in a mirror 3 [C] the general opinion about a person, organization, etc., esp. one that has been intentionally formed in people's minds: *The government will have to improve its image if it wants to win the next election.* | *The company tries to project an image of being innovative and progressive.* 4 [(the) (of)] a copy: *He's the (very) image of his father.* 5 [the+of] a phrase giving an idea of something in a poetical form, esp. a METAPHOR or SIMILE 6 *old use* likeness; form: *According to the Bible, man was made in the image of God.* —see also MIRROR IMAGE, SPITTING IMAGE

**im-age-ry** /'ɪmɪdʒəri/ *n* [U] images (IMAGE (5)) generally, esp. as used in literature

**i-ma-gi-na-ble** /ɪ'mædʒɪnəbəl/ *adj* that can be imagined: *We tried every imaginable means/every means imaginable, but we couldn't wake her up.* —opposite **unimaginable**

**i-ma-gi-na-ry** /ɪ'mædʒɪnəri/ *adj* not real, but produced from pictures or ideas in someone's mind; existing only in imagination: *All the characters in this book are imaginary.* | *My little daughter has an imaginary friend.* —compare **IMAGINATIVE**

**i-ma-gi-na-tion** /ɪ'mædʒɪ'neɪʃən/ *n* 1 [C;U] the ability to imagine: *The story shows plenty of imagination.* | *a vivid/fertile imagination* | *I'll leave the gory details to your imagination.* (=I will not describe them) | *His story about sailing around the world single-handed stretches the imagination somewhat.* (=is very hard/impossible to believe) | *The pantomime really captured the children's imagination and they talked about it for weeks.* 2 [C] the mind: *The difficulties are all in your imagination.* (=they are not real) 3 [U] *infml* something only imagined and not real: *Her pains are mostly pure imagination.*

**i-ma-gi-na-tive** /ɪ'mædʒɪ'nətɪv/ *adj* 1 that shows use of the imagination: *imaginative writing* | *an imaginative design* —compare **IMAGINARY** 2 good at inventing imaginary things or artistic forms, or at producing new ideas: *an imaginative child* — *~ly adv*

**i-ma-gine** /ɪ'mædʒɪn/ *v* [T] 1 [not usu. in progressive forms] to form (a picture or idea) in the mind: *I can imagine the scene quite clearly.* | *You can imagine my surprise when they told me the news.* [+wh-] *You can imagine how surprised I was.* [(+that)] *Try to imagine that you're all alone on a desert island.* [+v-ing] *It's hard to imagine living in a place where there are no cars.* [+obj+v-ing] *Can you imagine George cooking the dinner?* 2 to believe or have an idea about (something that is false or does not exist): *There's nobody following us — you're just imagining it!* [(+that)] *He imagines that people don't like him, but they do.* 3 [(+that); obj; not in progressive forms] to suppose; think: *I imagine she was pretty annoyed when she found out.* 4 (just) **imagine (it/that)!** (an expression of surprise or disapproval): *"She's dyed her hair purple."* *"Imagine that!"*

**im-am** /'ɪmɑːm, 'ɪmæm/ *n* a Muslim priest and/or prince, or someone who studies Muslim law

**im-bal-ance** /ɪm'bæləns/ *n* a lack of balance or proper relationship; a noticeable and usu. undesirable difference, esp. between two qualities or between two examples of one thing: *a population imbalance, in which more males*

*are born than females* | *a serious trade imbalance between the two countries*

**im-be-cile** /'ɪmbəsɪl||-səl/ *n* 1 a fool or stupid person 2 *old use or tech* a person of weak mind, but less weak than an IDIOT

**im-be-cil-i-ty** /ɪmbɪ'sɪlɪti/ *n* 1 [U] the state of being an imbecile 2 [C] an act of great foolishness

**im-bed** /ɪm'bed/ *v* -dd- [T (in)] to EMBED

**im-bibe** /ɪm'baɪb/ *v* [I;T] *fml or humor* to drink or take in (esp. alcohol): (fig.) *imbibing knowledge at his mother's knee* (=as a small child)

**im-bro-gli-o** /ɪm'brəʊliəʊ/ *n* -glios 1 an occasion filled with confused action 2 a misunderstanding or difficult and confusing situation, esp. in a play

**im-bue** /ɪm'bjuz/ *v*

**imbue** sbdy. with sthg. *phr v* [T usu. pass.] to fill with (something, esp. a strong feeling or opinion): *A president should be imbued with a sense of responsibility for the nation.*

**IMF** /ˌaɪ em 'ef/ *abbrev. for* INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND

**im-i-tate** /'ɪmɪteɪt/ *v* [T] 1 to copy (the behaviour, appearance, speech, etc.) typical of (a person); MIMIC: *James can imitate his father/his father's speech perfectly.* —compare **IMPERSONATE** 2 to take as an example or model: *You should imitate her way of doing things.* —**tator** *n*

**im-i-ta-tion** /ɪmɪ'teɪʃən/ *n* 1 [C;U] the act or an action of imitating: *She did a brilliant imitation of the Queen.* 2 [C] a copy of the real thing: *It's not real leather: it's only an imitation.* | *imitation jewellery* 3 **imitation** is the sincerest form of flattery saying if you copy what another person does, you are showing that you admire that person

**im-i-ta-tive** /'ɪmɪtətɪv||-teɪtɪv/ *adj* [(of)] sometimes derog following the example of someone or something else, esp. in a way that shows a lack of original ideas — *~ly adv* — *~ness n* [U]

**im-mac-u-late** /ɪ'mækjʊlət/ *adj* 1 clean and unspoil: *immaculate white shoes* 2 pure; without fault: *immaculate behaviour* — *~ly adv* : *immaculately dressed*

**Immaculate Con-cep-tion** /ˌɪmˌækjʊlət/ [the] the Roman Catholic belief that Christ's mother Mary did not have the fault (ORIGINAL SIN) that Christians believe all ordinary people have when they are born

**im-ma-nent** /'ɪmənənt/ *adj* *fml or tech* 1 (of qualities) spreading through something: *hope, which seems immanent in human nature* —compare **EMINENT**, **IMMINENT** 2 (of God) present in all parts of the universe —**nence**, **-nency** *n* [U]

**im-ma-te-ri-al** /ɪmə'tɪəriəl/ *adj* 1 unimportant; **IRRELEVANT**: *When it happened is immaterial: I want to know why it happened.* 2 not having material form; without substance: *The body is material but the soul is immaterial.*

**im-ma-ture** /ɪmə'tʃʊə||-tʃʊə/ *adj* 1 not fully formed or developed 2 not MATURE; showing a lack of good sense and control over one's feelings which is expected of people who are old enough to have learned this: *rather immature for a man of 30* — *~ly adv* —**turity** *n* [U]

**im-mea-su-ra-ble** /ɪ'mezərəbəl/ *adj* too big or great to be measured: *This scandal has done immeasurable damage to the company's reputation.* —**bly adv**

**im-me-di-a-cy** /ɪ'mɪdiəsi/ also **im-me-di-ate-ness** /-diət-nɪs/ *n* [U] the nearness or urgent presence of something, which causes it to be noticed or dealt with without delay: *the immediacy of the danger* | *Television brings a new immediacy to world problems.*

**im-me-di-ate** /ɪ'mɪdiət/ *adj* 1 a done or needed at once and without delay: *an immediate reply* | *taking immediate action to avert catastrophe* 2 [A] of or related to the present time: *We have no immediate plans for expansion.* | *Our immediate concern was to prevent the fire from spreading to other buildings.* 3 [A] nearest in time, space, or degree; next: *in the immediate future* | *My immediate family consists of my son and my wife.* | *Guards were posted in the immediate neighbourhood of the palace.* 4 [A] with nothing in between; direct: *He's been unwell for some time, but the immediate cause of his death was heart failure.*

**im-me-di-ate-ly** /ɪ'mɪdiətli/ *adv* 1 without delay; at once:



*Stop that immediately!* [+adv/prep] *I came immediately after I'd eaten.* **2** with nothing in between; directly: *All those who are immediately involved will be informed of the decision.* [+adv/prep] *I'd parked immediately in front of the theatre.*

**immediately**<sup>2</sup> conj BrE as soon as; DIRECTLY<sup>2</sup>: "*Immediately your application is accepted you will be covered by the ... Plan.*" (insurance advertisement)

**im-me-mo-ri-al** /ɪmˈdʒmɔːriəl/ adj going back to ancient times (esp. in the phrase **from/since time immemorial**)

**im-mense** /ɪˈmens/ adj usu. apprec extremely large in size or degree: *an immense palace/improvement*

**im-mense-ly** /ɪˈmensli/ adv very much; to a great degree: *I enjoyed it immensely.* | *immensely rich/popular*

**im-men-si-ty** /ɪˈmensɪti/ also **immensities** pl. — *n* [U] very great size: *the immensity/immensities of space*

**im-merse** /ɪˈmɜːs/ -ɜːrs/ *v* [T (in)] **1** to put deep into a body of liquid: *He lay immersed in a hot bath.* | *Immerse the cloth in the dye.* **2** to cause (oneself) to enter deeply into an activity; ABSORB: *I immersed myself in work so as to stop thinking about her.*

**im-mer-sion** /ɪˈmɜːʃən, -ʒən/ [ɪˈmɜːrʒən/ *n* [U] **1** the action of immersing or state of being immersed **2** BAPTISM by going under water **3** the language teaching method in which people are put in situations where they have to use the new language most of the time so that they learn faster

**immersion heat-er** /ɪˈmɜːrɪŋ/ also **immersion** *infml* — *n* BrE an electric water heater placed in a TANK that provides hot water for use in the home

**im-mi-grant** /ɪˈmɪgrənt/ *n* someone coming into a country from abroad to make their home there.

► **CULTURAL NOTE** Many immigrants have come to live in Britain. Some were REFUGEES, esp. before and during the Second World War. In the 1950s and 1960s many people came to Britain from the COMMONWEALTH (1), and more recently a number of BOAT PEOPLE arrived from Vietnam. The US has received large numbers of immigrants from all over the world since the country was established. —compare EMIGRANT; see EMIGRATE (USAGE); see also ILLEGAL IMMIGRANT ◀

**im-mi-grate** /ɪˈmɪgreɪt/ *v* [I] *rare* to come into a country to make one's life and home there —see EMIGRATE (USAGE)

**im-mi-gra-tion** /ɪˈmɪgreɪʃən/ *n* [U] the process of entering another country to make one's life and home there: *the immigration office at the airport* —see EMIGRATE (USAGE)

**Immigration and Nat-u-ral-i-za-tion Ser-vi-ce** /-ˌnætʃrəl-ɪˈzeɪʃən/ also **INS** *abbrev.* — [the] an American government organization which makes sure that people obey laws about who is allowed to enter the US legally and who may become a citizen

**immigration con-trols** /-ˌnætʃrəl-ɪˈzeɪʃən/ *n* [P] the rules used to limit the number of immigrants who come to live in a country, esp. by making it difficult for them to get official permission to immigrate: *There are strict immigration controls in this country.* —see also ILLEGAL IMMIGRANT

**im-mi-nence** /ɪˈmɪnəns/ also **im-mi-nen-cy** /-nənsi/ — *n* [U] *fml* the nearness of something which is going to happen, esp. something unpleasant: *The imminence of the exams made them work harder.*

**im-mi-nent** /ɪˈmɪnənt/ *adj* which is going to happen very soon: *There's a storm imminent.* | *in imminent danger of death* —compare EMINENT, IMPENDING, IMMANENT —~ly *adv*

**im-mo-bile** /ɪˈməʊbaɪl/ -bəɪl/ *adj* unmoving; unable to move: *to keep a broken leg immobile* —~bility /ɪˈməʊˈbɪləti/ *n* [U]

**im-mo-bi-lize** also **-lize** BrE /ɪˈməʊbɪlaɪz/ *v* [T] to make unable to move or travel: *immobilized by bad weather* | (fig.) *The company was immobilized by lack of finance.* —~lization /ɪˈməʊbɪlaɪˈzeɪʃən/ -bəɪlə- *n* [U]

**im-mod-e-rate** /ɪˈmɒdəreɪt/ [ɪˈmɑː-] *adj fml* not kept within sensible and reasonable limits; EXCESSIVE: *immoderate eating* | *immoderate wage demands* —~ly *adv* —~racy *n* [U]

**im-mod-est** /ɪˈmɒdəst/ [ɪˈmɑː-] *adj fml* **1** showing or tending to express a high opinion of oneself and one's abilities, perhaps higher than is really deserved; not MODEST **2** (usu. concerning women) not following the standards of sexual behaviour that are regarded as socially accept-

able: *an immodest dress* | *immodest behaviour* —compare INDECENT —~ly *adv* —~y *n* [U]

**im-mo-late** /ɪˈmɒleɪt/ *v* [T] to kill (esp. oneself) for religious or political reasons, esp. by burning —~lation /ɪˈmɒˈleɪʃən/ *n* [U]

**im-mor-al** /ɪˈmɒrəl/ [ɪˈmɔː-] *adj* **1** not good or right; not following accepted moral principles: *Using other people for one's own profit is immoral.* **2** going against accepted standards of sexual behaviour: *A pimp lives off the immoral earnings of a prostitute.* | *an immoral book that some people called obscene* —compare AMORAL —~ly *adv*

**im-mo-ral-i-ty** /ɪˈmɒˈrælɪti/ *n* **1** [U] immoral behaviour **2** [C *usu. pl.*] an act which goes against accepted standards

**im-mor-tal** /ɪˈmɔːtl/ -ɔːr- *adj* **1** that will never die; that will live for ever: *the immortal gods* **2** that will continue or be remembered for ever: *Shakespeare's immortal plays* —~immortal *n*: *Shakespeare is one of the immortals.*

**im-mor-tal-i-ty** /ɪˈmɔːˈtælɪti/ -ɔːr- *n* [U] the state of being immortal; never-ending life or endless fame

**im-mor-tal-ize** also **-ise** BrE /ɪˈmɔːtəl-aɪz/ -ɔːr- *v* [T] to give endless life or fame to: *Dickens's father was immortalized as Mr Micawber in "David Copperfield".*

**Immortal Mem-o-ry** /-ˌmɛm-əˈrɪ-/ **The** (esp. in Scotland) the title of a TOAST<sup>1</sup> (2) (=expression of good wishes) to Robert Burns, usu. made at parties on BURNS NIGHT

**im-mo-va-ble** /ɪˈmʊvəbəl/ *adj* **1** impossible to move **2** impossible to change: *The government is immovable on that issue.* (=will not change its mind) —~bly *adv*

**im-mune** /ɪˈmjʊn/ *adj* **1** [(to)] unable to be harmed because of special qualities in oneself: *immune to disease* | *The president seems to be immune to criticism.* **2** [(from)] specially protected: *The criminal was told he would be immune from prosecution if he helped the police.* —~munity *n* [U]: *diplomatic immunity*

**immune sys-tem** /ɪˈmjʊn-sɪs-əm/ [the] the bodily system by which special substances called antibodies (ANTIBODY) are produced to fight against disease-causing substances (ANTIGENS) that have entered the body

**im-mu-nize** also **-nise** BrE /ɪˈmjʊnaɪz/ *v* [T (against)] to protect from disease by putting certain substances into the body, usu. by means of an INJECTION —compare INOCULATE, VACCINATE —~nization /ɪˈmjʊnaɪˈzeɪʃən/ -nə- *n* [C;U]

**im-mu-no-de-fi-cien-cy** /ɪˈmjʊnəʊdɪˈfɪʃənsi, ɪˈmjʊnəʊ- *n* [C,U] an inability of the body to fight infection (e.g. when a person has AIDS) —~immunodeficient *adj*

**im-mure** /ɪˈmjʊə/ *v* [T] *fml* or *lit* to imprison; shut (someone) away alone

**im-mu-ta-ble** /ɪˈmjʊtəbəl/ *adj fml* unchangeable: *the immutable laws of nature* —~bly *adv* —~bility /ɪˈmjʊtəˈbɪləti/ *n* [U]

**imp** /ɪmp/ *n* **1** a little devil **2** a child who misbehaves in a not very serious way —see also IMPISH

**im-pact**<sup>1</sup> /ɪˈpækt/ *n* **1** the force of one object hitting another **2** [(on)] an esp. strong or powerful influence or effect caused or produced by an idea, invention, event, etc.: *The computer has had/made a great impact on modern life.* | *The full impact of these changes has not yet been felt.* **3** **on impact** at the moment of hitting: *The cup hit the wall and broke on impact.*

**im-pact**<sup>2</sup> /ɪmpækt/ *v* [I+on;T] esp. AmE to have an impact (on): *These costs will impact on our profitability.*

**im-pact-ed** /ɪmpæktɪd/ *adj* (usu. of a WISDOM TOOTH) growing under another tooth instead of upwards into the mouth

**im-pair** /ɪmˈpeə/ *v* [T] to weaken or make worse: *His illness has impaired his efficiency.* | *impaired hearing* —~ment *n* [U]

**im-pa-la** /ɪmˈpɑːlə/ *n* **impalas** or **impala** a large brownish graceful African deerlike animal (ANTELOPE)

**im-pale** /ɪmˈpeɪl/ *v* [T (on)] to run a sharp stick or weapon through (someone's body): *He fell out of the window and was impaled on the iron railings.* —compare TRANSFIX —~ment *n* [U]

**im-pal-pa-ble** /ɪmˈpælpəbəl/ *adj fml* **1** which cannot be felt by touch; not PALPABLE **2** not easily understood: *impalpable ideas floating through his mind*

**im-pan-el** /ɪmˈpæn/ *v* [T] to EMPANEL



**im-part** /ɪm'pɑ:t||-ɑ:t/ *v* [T (to)] *fml* 1 to give or pass (qualities, feelings, etc.): *The music imparts a feeling of excitement to the film.* | *The herbs imparted a delicious flavour to the stew.* 2 to make known (information, etc.): *He had no news to impart.*

**im-par-tial** /ɪm'pɑ:fəl||-ɑ:r-/ *adj* fair; not giving special favour or support to any one side: *an impartial judge* | *an impartial news report* — *~ly adv* — *~ity* /ɪm,pɑ:ʃi-'æljəti||-ɑ:r-/ *n* [U]

**im-pass-a-ble** /ɪm'pɑ:səbəl||ɪm'pæ-/ *adj* which cannot be travelled over: *The snow has made the road impassable.*

**im-passe** /æm'pɑ:s||'ɪmpæs/ *n* [*usu. sing.*] a point at which further movement or development is blocked: *The negotiations have reached an impasse.* (=neither side will agree)

**im-pas-sioned** /ɪm'pæʃənd/ *adj* (*usu. of speech*) filled with deep feelings: *an impassioned plea for justice*

**im-pas-sive** /ɪm'pæsɪv/ *adj* sometimes *derog* showing or seeming to have no feelings; without EMOTION: *The defendant remained impassive as the judge sentenced him to death.* —compare IMPERTURBABLE — *~ly adv* — *~sivity* /ɪmpæ'sɪvjəti/ *n* [U]

**im-pa-tience** /ɪm'peɪʃəns/ *n* [U] 1 inability or unwillingness to accept delays, other people's weaknesses, etc.: *There is growing impatience at the government's inability to solve the problem.* 2 [+for/to-*v*] great eagerness: *She arrived too early in her impatience to see him.*

**im-pa-tient** /ɪm'peɪʃənt/ *adj* 1 showing impatience: *too impatient with slow learners* | *an impatient reply* 2 [F+for/to-*v*] very eager: *impatient for his dinner* | *impatient to leave* — *~ly adv*

**im-peach** /ɪm'pi:tʃ/ *v* [T] 1 *fml* to raise doubts about: *to impeach someone's motives/character* 2 *law* a to say that (someone) is guilty of a serious crime, esp. against the state *b* (esp. in the US) to charge (a public official) with serious misbehaviour in office — *~ment n* [U]

**im-pec-ca-ble** /ɪm'pekəbəl/ *adj* free from fault or blame; FLAWLESS: *impeccable character/credentials* — *bly adv*: *impeccably dressed*

**im-pe-cu-ni-ous** /ɪmpɪ'kju:niəs-/ *adj fml, sometimes humor* having little or no money, esp. continually — *~ly adv* — *~ness n* [U]

**im-ped-ance** /ɪm'pi:dəns/ *n* [S;U] *tech* (a measure of) the power of a piece of electrical apparatus to stop the flow of an ALTERNATING CURRENT

**im-pede** /ɪm'pi:d/ *v* [T] to get in the way of or slow down the movement or development of; HINDER: *The rescue attempt was impeded by bad weather.*

**im-ped-i-ment** /ɪm'pedɪmənt/ *n* 1 [(to)] a fact or event which makes action difficult or impossible: *The main impediment to development is the country's huge foreign debt.* 2 a physical or nervous difficulty which prevents a person from speaking clearly: *a speech impediment*

**im-ped-i-men-ta** /ɪm,pedɪ'mentə/ *n* [P] bags and possessions in the form of LUGGAGE, esp. supplies carried by an army: (*fig., humor*) *They brought their children, the cat, the dog, and the rest of their impedimenta.*

**im-pel** /ɪm'pel/ *v* -ll- [T (to)] (esp. of an idea, feeling, etc.) to drive (someone) to take action: *impelled to greater effort* [+obj+to-*v*] *I was so annoyed that I felt impelled to write a letter to the paper.* —compare COMPEL; see also IMPULSE

**im-pend-ing** /ɪm'pendɪŋ/ *adj* (*usu. of something unpleasant*) about to happen: *impending doom* | *the impending exams* —compare IMMINENT

**im-pen-e-tra-ble** /ɪm'penɪtrəbəl/ *adj* 1 impossible to go into or through: *the impenetrable forest* | (*fig.*) *impenetrable darkness* (=in which the eye can see nothing) 2 extremely difficult or impossible to understand: *an impenetrable mystery*

**im-pen-i-tent** /ɪm'penɪtənt/ *adj fml* not sorry (for wrongdoing): *an impenitent criminal* — *~ly adv* — *~tence n* [U]

**im-per-a-tive** /ɪm'perətɪv/ *adj* 1 urgent; which must be done: *Prompt action is imperative. It's imperative that you (should) tell him immediately.* 2 showing proud power: *an imperative manner* 3 *tech* (in grammar) expressing a command or having the form of a command —compare DECLARATIVE, INTERROGATIVE — *~ly adv*

**imperative** <sup>2</sup> *n* 1 *tech* (in grammar) a verb form, or a set of verb forms (MOOD<sup>2</sup>), that expresses a command: *In*

*"Come here!" the verb "come" is an imperative* | *is in the imperative.* —compare INDICATIVE<sup>2</sup>, SUBJUNCTIVE 2 *fml* something that must be done: *Job creation has become an imperative for the government.* | *a moral imperative*

**im-per-cep-ti-ble** /ɪmpə'septɪbəl||-pər-/ *adj* not noticed because very small or slight; not PERCEPTIBLE: *an almost imperceptible movement of her eyelid* — *bly adv* — *~bility* /ɪmpəseptɪ'bɪljəti||-pər-/ *n* [U]

**im-per-fect** <sup>1</sup> /ɪm'pɜ:fɪkt||-zɜ:r-/ *adj* 1 not perfect; faulty: *an imperfect knowledge of French* 2 [A] *tech* being the form of a verb used to show incomplete action in the past — *~ly adv* — *~ion* /ɪmpə'fekʃən||-pər-/ *n* [C;U]

**imperfect** <sup>2</sup> [*the*] *tech* (in grammar) the form of a verb that shows incomplete action in the past: *"I was walking along the road" is in the imperfect.*

**im-pe-ri-al** /ɪm'pɪəriəl/ *adj* (*often cap.*) 1 of an EMPIRE or its ruler: *Britain's imperial expansion in the 19th century* | *an imperial power* (=a country that rules a lot of other countries) —compare IMPERIOUS 2 (of weights and measures) of the British standard: *The imperial gallon is not the same size as the US one.* —compare METRIC; see TABLE 2; see also METRIC (CULTURAL NOTE) — *~ly adv*

**Imperial Cancer Re-search** /ɪm'pɪəriəl'kænsər'ri:ʃəs/ a British organization that does work to find what causes CANCER and how it can be cured

**Imperial Col-lege** /ɪm'pɪəriəl'kɒlɪdʒ/ (*abbrev. IC*) a college that is part of the University of London, and does RESEARCH in science, MINING, ENGINEERING, and COMPUTING

**im-pe-ri-al-is-m** /ɪm'pɪəriəlɪzəm/ *n* [U] 1 (the practice of) forming a large group of countries all under the direct political control of a single state or ruler 2 *derog* the gaining of political and trade advantages over poorer nations by a powerful country which rules them or controls them indirectly —compare COLONIALISM — *~ist n, adj* — *~istic* /ɪm,pɪəriəlɪstɪk-/ *adj* — *~istically* /kli/ *adv*

**Imperial War Mu-se-um** /ɪm'pɪəriəl'wɔ:riəm/ [*the*] a military MUSEUM in London, which contains information about the wars which Britain has fought

**im-per-il** /ɪm'perɪl/ *v* -ll- *BrE* || -l- *AmE* [T] rather *fml* to put in danger: *The whole project is imperilled by lack of funds.*

**im-pe-ri-ous** /ɪm'pɪəriəs/ *adj* (too) commanding; expecting obedience: *an imperious voice/manner* —compare IMPERIAL — *~ly adv* — *~ness n* [U]

**im-per-ish-a-ble** /ɪm'perɪʃəbəl/ *adj fml or tech* which will always exist or cannot wear out; that cannot PERISH: *The manufacturers claim that the material is imperishable.* | *imperishable memories*

**im-per-ma-nent** /ɪm'pɜ:mənənt||-zɜ:r-/ *adj* which will change or be lost; not PERMANENT: *an impermanent arrangement* — *~nence n* [U]

**im-per-me-a-ble** /ɪm'pɜ:miəbəl||-zɜ:r-/ *adj* which substances (esp. liquids) cannot pass through —compare IMPERVIOUS

**im-per-mis-si-ble** /ɪmpɜ:'mɪsɪbəl||-zɜ:r-/ *adj fml* which cannot be allowed

**im-per-son-al** /ɪm'pɜ:sənəl||-zɜ:r-/ *adj* 1 not showing or including personal feelings: *an impersonal letter* | *a large impersonal organization* 2 *tech* (in grammar) having no subject, or a subject represented by a meaningless or empty word like "it": *"Rain" is an impersonal verb in a sentence like "It rained".* — *~ly adv*

**im-per-so-nate** /ɪm'pɜ:səneɪt||-zɜ:r-/ *v* [T] to pretend to be (another person) by copying their appearance, behaviour, etc.: *He impersonates all the well-known politicians.* | *He was arrested for impersonating an army officer.* —compare IMITATE — *~nation* /ɪm,pɜ:sə'neɪʃən||-zɜ:r-/ *n* [C;U]: *She does a marvellous impersonation of the principal.* — *~nator* /ɪm'pɜ:səneɪtə/||-zɜ:r-/ *n*

**im-per-ti-nent** /ɪm'pɜ:tɪnənt||-zɜ:r-/ *adj* rude or not respectful, esp. to an older or more important person —see IMPOLITE (USAGE) — *~ly adv* — *~nence n* [U]

**im-per-tur-ba-ble** /ɪmpə'tɜ:bəbəl||-pər'tɜ:r-/ *adj* that cannot be worried; remaining calm and steady in spite of difficulties or confusion —compare IMPASSIVE — *bly adv* — *~bility* /ɪmpətɜ:bə'bɪljəti||-pər'tɜ:r-/ *n* [U]

**im-per-vi-ous** /ɪm'pɜ:vɪəs||-zɜ:r-/ *adj* [(to)] 1 not allowing anything to pass through: *impervious to gases and liquids* 2 not easily influenced or changed, esp. in one's opinions: *impervious to reason/criticism* | *impervious to her charms* —compare IMPERMEABLE



**im-pe-ti-go** /,ɪmpə'taɪgəʊ/ *n* [U] an infectious skin disease

**im-pet-u-ous** /ɪm'petʃuəs/ *adj* tending to take quick action but without careful thought; **IMPULSIVE**: *an impetuous decision which she soon regretted* — *~ly adv* — **-osity** /ɪm'petʃu'ɒsɪti/ — **-ness** /ɪm'petʃuəsənəs/ *n* [U]

**im-pe-tus** /'ɪmpɛtəs/ *n* 1 [U] the force of something moving; **MOMENTUM**: *The car ran down the hill under its own impetus.* | (fig.) *The campaign is gaining impetus.* 2 [S;U] something that encourages action; **STIMULUS**: *The government's encouragement gave fresh impetus to these reforms.*

**im-pi-e-ty** /ɪm'paɪəti/ *n* 1 [U] lack of respect, esp. for religion; lack of **PIETY** — see also **IMPIOUS** 2 [C often pl.] an act of impiety

**im-pinge** /ɪm'pɪndʒ/ *v*

**impinge on/upon** sthg./sbdy *phr v* [T pass. rare] to have an effect on; influence: *The effects of the recession are impinging on every aspect of our lives.*

**im-pi-ous** /'ɪmpɪəs/ *adj* lacking respect, esp. for religion; showing **IMPIETY** — *~ly adv* — **-ness** *n* [U]

**imp-ish** /'ɪmpɪʃ/ *adj* not usu. derog like an **IMP** (=a little devil); **MISCHIEVOUS**: *an impish grin* | *a charmingly impish child* — *~ly adv* — **-ness** *n* [U]

**im-plac-a-ble** /ɪm'plækəbəl/ *adj* impossible to satisfy, change, or make less angry: *an implacable enemy* | *implacable demands*

**im-plant** /ɪm'plɑːnt/|ɪm'plænt/ *v* [T (in, into)] to fix in deeply, usu. into the body or mind: *deeply implanted fears/insecurity* — compare **TRANSPLANT** — **implant** /'ɪmplɑːnt/ || -plænt/ *n*: *an artificial heart implant*

**im-plau-si-ble** /ɪm'pləʊzɪbəl/ *adj* seeming to be untrue, unreasonable, or unlikely: *an implausible excuse/explanation* — *bly adv* — **-bility** /ɪm'pləʊzɪ'bɪlɪti/ *n* [U]

**im-ple-ment**<sup>1</sup> /'ɪmplɪmənt/ *n* a tool or instrument: *farm-ing/gardening implements* — see **MACHINE (USAGE)**

**im-ple-ment**<sup>2</sup> /'ɪmplɪmənt/ *v* [T] to carry out or put into practice: *The committee's suggestions will be implemented immediately.*

**im-pli-cate** /'ɪmplɪkeɪt/ *v* [T (in)] to show that (someone else) is also concerned (in an esp. criminal activity): *a letter implicating him in the robbery* — compare **INVOLVE**

**im-pli-ca-tion** /,ɪmplɪ'keɪʃən/ *n* 1 [C;U] (an example of) the act of implying: *She said very little directly, but a great deal by implication.* 2 [C] a possible later effect of an action, decision, etc.: *What are the implications (of the government's announcement) for the future of our project?* | *an article assessing the wider implications of the nuclear accident* 3 [U] the act of implicating — compare **INFERENCE**

**im-pli-cit** /ɪm'plɪsɪt/ *adj* 1 [(in)] implied or understood though not directly expressed: *Their request for information seems to contain an implicit threat.* | *She didn't openly attack the plan, but her opposition was implicit in her failure to say anything in support of it.* — compare **EXPLICIT** 2 unquestioning and complete: *implicit trust (in you)* — *~ly adv*: *She trusted the doctor implicitly.*

**im-plode** /ɪm'pləʊd/ *v* [I] to explode inwards — **-plosion** /ɪm'pləʊzən/ *n* [C;U]

**im-plore** /ɪm'plɔː/ *v* [T] *fml* to ask (for) in a begging manner; **ENTREAT**: *an imploring look* | *She implored his forgiveness.* [+obj+to-v] *I implore you to go now.*

**im-ply** /ɪm'plaɪ/ *v* [T] 1 to express, show, or mean indirectly; suggest: *Their failure to reply to our letter seems to imply a lack of interest.* [+ (that)] *She didn't actually say she had been there, but she certainly implied that she had.* | *Are you implying that we are not telling the truth?* | *an implied threat/criticism* — see **INFER (USAGE)** 2 to cause to be necessary; **ENTAIL**: *Rights imply duties.*

**im-po-lite** /,ɪmpə'lait/ *adj* not polite: *It was impolite of her not to say goodbye.* — *~ly adv* — **-ness** *n* [C;U]

▷ **USAGE** **Rude** can have a similar meaning to **impolite**, but it is stronger, and suggests a real wish to be unpleasant. Compare *It was rather impolite of you not to write and thank the hosts* and *He's never forgiven her since she was rude about his cooking.* **Impertinent**, **impudent**, **cheeky** *BrE*, and **sassy** *AmE infml* mean rude, esp. to an older or more important person: *I can hardly believe the impudent things he says to the boss.* | *a cheeky child* ◀

**im-pol-i-tic** /ɪm'pɒlɪtɪk/|-'pɑː-/ *adj fml* (of an action or decision) not well-judged for one's purpose; not wise; not **POLITIC**

**im-pon-de-ra-ble**<sup>1</sup> /ɪm'pɒndərəbəl/|-'pɑːn-/ *adj* of which the importance cannot be calculated or measured exactly

**imponderable**<sup>2</sup> *n* [usu. pl.] something whose effects are imponderable

**im-port**<sup>1</sup> /ɪm'pɔːt/|-'ɔːrt/ *v* [T (from)] to bring in (something, esp. goods) from another place or esp. another country: *a rise in the number of imported cars/of cars imported from France* — compare **EXPORT**<sup>1</sup>

**im-port**<sup>2</sup> /'ɪmpɔːt/|-'ɔːrt/ *n* 1 [C often pl.] something brought into a country from abroad: *(The volume of) imports rose last month.* 2 [U] the act or business of importing: *the import of food from abroad* — compare **EXPORT**<sup>2</sup> 3 [(the) S] *fml* the meaning: *The import of his speech was that we should all work harder.* 4 [U] *fml* importance: *a matter of no great import*

**im-por-tance** /ɪm'pɔːtəns/|-'ɔːr-/ *n* [U] 1 the quality or state of being important: *a matter of little importance/of the utmost importance/of national importance* | *How much importance do you attach to the latest events?* 2 the reason why something or someone is important: *The real importance of this new law is the protection it gives to female workers.*

**Importance of Be-ing Ear-nest** /,ɪm'pɔːtəns/|-'ɔːr-/ *n* [U] The a play by Oscar Wilde in which a man pretends that his name is Ernest because he thinks this will give him an advantage with a woman he admires

**im-por-tant** /ɪm'pɔːtənt/|-'ɔːr-/ *adj* 1 which matters a lot; having or likely to have great effect, value, or influence: *an important meeting/decision* | *He had to cancel his holiday owing to important developments which required his attention.* | *an important new book about American history* | *It's important (for people) to learn to read.* | *It's important that he (should) learn to read.* | *Privacy is important to her.* (=has a high value for her) 2 (of people) having influence or power: *one of the most important people in the company* | *an important new writer* — opposite **unimportant** — *~ly adv*: *You must finish, and, more importantly, you must finish on time.*

**im-por-ta-tion** /,ɪmpɔː'teɪʃən/|-'ɔːr-/ *n* 1 [U] the act or business of importing — compare **EXPORTATION** 2 [C] something brought in from another place or country, esp. an object or way of behaviour typical of another place

**import con-trols** /'ɪm'pɔːt kən'trɒls/ *n* [P] limits on the number of imports allowed into a country, set by a government in order to protect the country's own industries

**import du-ty** /'ɪm'pɔːt dʌti/ *n* [C;U] (a) tax on goods which enter one country from another, according to their value, quantity, etc.: *You'll have to pay import duty on that machinery.*

**im-por-ter** /ɪm'pɔːtə/ || -ɔːr-/ *n* a person or country that imports: *The US is a big importer of goods.* — compare **EXPORTER**

**import li-cence** /'ɪm'pɔːt 'laɪsəns/ *n* a document giving permission to bring certain goods into a country

**im-por-tu-nate** /ɪm'pɔːtʃənət/|-'ɔːr-/ *adj fml* always demanding things: *importunate people/requests* — *~ly adv* — **-nity** /,ɪmpə'tjuːnɪti/|,ɪmpər'tuː-/ *n* [U]

**im-por-tune** /,ɪmpə'tjuːn/|,ɪmpər'tuːn/ *v* [T] *fml* to make repeated requests to, often in an annoying or troubling way: *We were importuned with requests for assistance.*

**im-pose** /ɪm'pəʊz/ *v* [(on, upon)] 1 [T] to establish (an additional payment) officially: *A new tax has been imposed on wine.* 2 [T] to force the acceptance of (usu. something difficult or unwanted): *The bank has imposed very strict conditions for the repayment of the loan.* | *The magistrate imposed a fine of £500.* | *Economic sanctions have been imposed on the nation.* 3 [I] to take unfair advantage, in a way that causes additional work and trouble: *Thanks for the offer but I won't stay the night — I don't want to impose on you.* — **imposition** /,ɪmpə'zɪʃən/ *n* [C;U]: *It's quite an imposition to ask us to stay late at work.* | *protesting against the imposition of a sales tax on books*

**im-pos-ing** /ɪm'pəʊzɪŋ/ *adj* grand in appearance or large in size; **IMPRESSIVE**: *an imposing view across the valley* | *an imposing building* — *~ly adv*

**im-pos-si-ble** /ɪm'pɒsɪbəl/|ɪm'pɑː-/ *adj* 1 that cannot happen or exist, or be done or fulfilled: *Lack of money made*



*further progress impossible. | an impossible request | It's impossible (for us) to come. | You're asking me to do the impossible. (=do something that is impossible) [F+to-v] demands that were impossible to accept [F+(that)] It's impossible that he forgot our meeting: he must have stayed away on purpose. 2 difficult or awkward to accept or deal with: His bad temper makes life impossible for the whole family. | You're the most impossible person I've ever met! | Her refusal has put me in an impossible position. —bly adv : impossibly difficult —bility /ɪmˈpɒsəˈbɪlɪti/ n [U]*

**im-pos-tor** || also -ter *AmE* /ɪmˈpɒstəːr/ || ɪmˈpɑːs-/ *n* someone who deceives by pretending to be someone else

**im-pos-ture** /ɪmˈpɒstʃəːr/ || ɪmˈpɑːs-/ *n* [C;U] *fml* (an example of) being an impostor

**im-po-tent** /ˈɪmpətənt/ *adj* 1 unable to take effective action, esp. because lacking power: *a government that seems impotent in its dealings with the trade unions* [F+to-v] *We felt quite impotent to resist the will of the dictator.* 2 (of a man) unable to perform the sex act —~ly adv —tence *n* [U]

**im-pound** /ɪmˈpaʊnd/ *v* [T] *fml or law* to take and keep officially until claimed (esp. something lost or not taken care of): *The police will impound your car if you leave it there.*

**im-pov-e-rish** /ɪmˈpɒvərɪʃ/ || ɪmˈpɑː-/ *v* [T *usu. pass.*] 1 to make poor: *an impoverished student* | (fig.) *spiritually impoverished* 2 to make worse or incomplete by the removal of something important: *Our lives have been impoverished by the death of that great artist.*

**im-prac-ti-ca-ble** /ɪmˈpræktɪkəbəl/ *adj* that cannot be used or done in practice; not PRACTICABLE: *The idea sounds good, but I'm afraid it's impracticable.* —bly adv —bility /ɪmˈpræktɪkəˈbɪlɪti/ *n* [U]

**im-prac-ti-cal** /ɪmˈpræktɪkəl/ *adj* not sensible or clever in dealing with practical matters: *an impractical person who can't even boil an egg* | *an ingenious but impractical suggestion* —~ly *adv* —~ity /ɪmˈpræktɪˈkælɪti/ *n* [U]

**im-pre-ca-tion** /ˌɪmprɪˈkeɪʃən/ *n fml* 1 [C] a curse; a SWEARWORD 2 [U] the act of cursing

**im-preg-na-ble** /ɪmˈpregnəbəl/ *adj* which cannot be entered or taken by force: *an impregnable fortress* | (fig.) *an impregnable argument* —bly adv —bility /ɪmˈpregnəˈbɪlɪti/ *n* [U]

**im-preg-nate** /ˈɪmpregneɪt/ || ɪmˈpreg-/ *v* [T] 1 *fml* to make PREGNANT 2 [(with)] to cause a substance to enter and spread completely through (another substance): *a cleaning cloth impregnated with polish* 3 (of a substance) to enter and spread completely through (another substance)

**im-pre-sa-ri-o** /ˌɪmprɪˈsæːriəʊ/ *n -os* a person who arranges for performances in theatres, concert halls, etc.

**im-press**¹ /ɪmˈpres/ *v* [T] 1 [often *pass.*; not in progressive forms] to influence deeply, esp. with a feeling of admiration: *The teachers were most impressed/very impressed by your performance in the exam.* | *The thing that impresses me most about her books is the way she draws her characters.* | *We've tried the new product and we're favourably impressed with it.* (=we think it is good) 2 to make the importance of (something) clear to (someone): [+on/upon+obj] *My father impressed on me the value of hard work.* [+obj+with] *My father impressed me with the value of hard work.* 3 [(into, on)] to press (something) into something else, or to make (a mark) as a result of this pressure: *a pattern impressed on the clay pots before baking*

**im-press**² /ˈɪmpres/ *n fml or lit* a mark or pattern made by impressing (IMPRESS (3))

**im-pres-sion** /ɪmˈpreʃən/ *n* 1 [C (on)] an image or effect that is produced in the mind by a person, event, experience, etc.: *The house was very untidy — it didn't create a very good impression, I'm afraid.* | *Her speech made quite an impression on the audience.* (=had an effect on them, esp. by being good) | *First impressions are often wrong.* | *What's your impression of him as a worker?* (=do you think he is good or bad?) 2 [C often *sing.*] a not very clear feeling or idea about something: *On waking, I had a vague impression of shapes and bright colours, but I didn't know where I was.* [(+that)] *I got the distinct impression (that) they'd just had an argument.* | *I asked him for a job under the impression that he was the*

*manager — but he wasn't.* 3 [C] a mark left by pressure: *He took an impression of the key.* | *the impression of a heel in the mud* 4 [C (of)] an attempt to copy in a funny way the most noticeable parts of a person's appearance or behaviour: *He did a brilliant impression of the president.* 5 [C often *sing.*] all the copies of something (such as a book) made at one printing —compare EDITION, REPRINT² 6 [U] the act of impressing or state of being impressed

**im-pres-sio-na-ble** /ɪmˈpreʃənəbəl/ *adj* (of a person) easy to influence, often with the result that one's feelings and ideas change easily and one is too ready to admire other people: *The child is at an impressionable age.* —bly adv —bility /ɪmˈpreʃənəˈbɪlɪti/ *n* [U]

**im-pres-sion-is-m** /ɪmˈpreʃənɪzəm/ *n* [U] (often *cap.*) 1 a style of painting (used esp. in France between 1870 and 1900 by painters such as Monet, Cézanne, and Pissarro) which produces effects (esp. of light) by use of colour rather than by details of form. The French impressionists often painted directly from nature. 2 a style of music (in France 1870–1914, and in England later) that produces feelings and images by the quality of sounds rather than by a pattern of notes —compare EX-PRESSIONISM

**im-pres-sion-ist**¹ /ɪmˈpreʃənɪst/ *n* 1 (often *cap.*) a person who practises impressionism in painting or music 2 a person who does IMPRESSIONS (4), esp. as a theatrical performance

**impressionist**² *adj* (often *cap.*) of or about impressionism: *an impressionist painter/painting*

**im-pres-sion-is-tic** /ɪmˈpreʃənɪstɪk-/ *adj* based on impressions rather than on knowledge, fact, or detailed study: *an impressionistic account of what happened* —~ally *adv*

**im-pres-sive** /ɪmˈpresɪv/ *adj* causing admiration, esp. by giving one a feeling of size, importance, or great skill; making a strong or good impression: *an impressive speech/speaker* | *the great cathedral with its impressive spire* —~ly *adv* —~ness *n* [U]

**im-pri-ma-tur** /ˌɪmprɪˈmeɪtəːr, -ˈmɑː-/ *n* [*usu. sing.*] 1 official permission to print a book, esp. as given by the Roman Catholic Church 2 sometimes *humor* approval, esp. from an important person

**im-print**¹ /ɪmˈprɪnt/ *v* [T (on)] 1 to print or press (a mark) on something: *The shape of the coin was imprinted on his tightly clenched hand.* | (fig.) *Every detail is imprinted on my mind.* 2 (*usu. pass.*) to give (a bird or animal) an image of the family it belongs to, *usu.* by being the first thing it sees after birth: *Christine reared the duck from birth, and it thinks she's its mother — it's been imprinted by her.*

**im-print**² /ˈɪmprɪnt/ *n* 1 a mark left on or in something: *the imprint of her foot in the moist sand* 2 the name of the PUBLISHER as it appears on a book: *This dictionary is published under the Longman imprint.*

**im-pris-on** /ɪmˈprɪzən/ *v* [T] to put in prison or keep in a place or state which one is not free to leave: *The crew were imprisoned in the plane by the hijackers.* —~ment *n* [U]: *He was sentenced to life imprisonment.* (=for life or a very long time)

**im-prob-a-ble** /ɪmˈprɒbəbəl/ || -ˈpraː-/ *adj* not likely to happen or be true: *They may win, but it's improbable.* | *a rather improbable explanation* | *It is improbable that he drove home in less than an hour.* —bly adv —bility /ɪmˈprɒbəˈbɪlɪti/ || -ˈpraː-/ *n* [C;U]

**im-promp-tu** /ɪmˈprɒmptjuː/ || ɪmˈpraːmptuː/ *adj, adv* (said or done) at once without preparation: *an impromptu speech*

**im-prop-er** /ɪmˈprɒpəːr/ || -ˈpraː-/ *adj* 1 not suitable; INAP-PROPRIATE: *improper behaviour for such a serious occasion* 2 not in accordance with fact, truth, or rules; not correct: *The director of the charity was accused of improper use of funds.* | *the improper use of a singular verb with a plural subject* 3 showing thoughts which are socially unacceptable, esp. about sex: *What an improper suggestion!* —see also PROPER —~ly *adv* : *improperly dressed for the occasion*

**improper frac-tion** /-ˌfrækʃən/ *n* a FRACTION, such as  $\frac{107}{8}$  in which the number above the line is greater than the one below it —compare PROPER FRACTION

**im-pro-pri-e-ty** /ˌɪmprəˈpraɪəti/ *n fml* 1 [U] the quality or state of being improper 2 [C] an improper act —see also PROPRIETY



**im-prove** /ɪmˈpruːv/ *v* **1** [T] to make better; bring to a better or more acceptable state: *I want to improve my English.* | *If the company refuses to improve its pay offer, we shall go on strike.* **2** [I] to get better: *Let's hope the weather improves before Saturday.* | *Business prospects have improved enormously.* | *The wine improves with age.* **3** [T] to increase the value of (land or property) by farming, building, etc.

**improve on/upon** sthg. *phr v* [T] to produce or be something better than: *The leading contestant has scored 165 points, and I don't think anyone will improve on that.*

**im-prove-ment** /ɪmˈpruːvmənt/ *n* [C;U (in, on)] (a sign or result of) the act of improving or the state of being improved: *Your work shows considerable improvement.* | *There has been a slight improvement/a significant improvement in the company's trading position.* | *to carry out home improvements* | *Your English is getting better, but there is still room for improvement.* (=it is still possible for it to improve even more)

▷ **USAGE** You can speak of an **improvement** in something if it has got better: *There has been an improvement in the weather.* You can speak of an **improvement on** something if you compare two things, the second of which is better than the first: *Today's weather is an improvement on* (=is better than) *yesterday's.* ◁

**im-prov-i-dent** /ɪmˈprɒvɪdənt/ -'præ-/ *adj fml* (esp. of someone who wastes money) not preparing for the future — *~ly adv* — **dence** *n* [U]

**im-pro-viso** /'ɪmprəvaɪz/ *v* [I;T] **1** to do or make (something one has not prepared for) owing to an unexpected situation, sudden need, etc.: *I forgot to bring the words of my speech, so I just had to improvise.* | *We slept by the road in an improvised shelter.* **2** to make up (music) as one is playing — **visation** /,ɪmprəvaɪ'zeɪʃən/ *n* [C;U]

**im-pru-dent** /ɪmˈpruːdənt/ *adj* unwise and thoughtless; not PRUDENT — *~ly adv* — **dence** *n* [U]

**im-pu-dent** /'ɪmpjʊdənt/ *adj* rude and disrespectful, esp. to an older or more important person: *an impudent child* | *remark* — *~ly adv* — **dence** *n* [U]

**im-pugn** /ɪmˈpjʊːn/ *v* [T] *fml* to raise doubts about (someone's behaviour, qualities, etc.)

**im-pulse** /'ɪmpʌls/ *n* **1** [C;U] a sudden wish to do something; sudden urge: *He bought the car on (an) impulse.* (=without planning or deciding in advance) [+to-v] *an irresistible impulse to start dancing* | **impulse buying** of goods one does not really want — compare IMPULSIVE **2** [C] *fml* a reason or aim which is the cause of activity; STIMULUS: *The prime impulse of capitalism is the making of money.* **3** [C] *tech* a single push, or a force acting for a short time in one direction along a wire, nerve, etc.: *an electrical impulse* | *a nerve impulse*

**im-pul-sion** /ɪmˈpʌlsən/ *n* **1** [U] the act of impelling or state of being impelled (IMPEL) **2** [C] an urge or impulse

**im-pul-sive** /ɪmˈpʌlsɪv/ *adj* having or showing a tendency to act suddenly without thinking about the suitability or possible results of what one is doing — compare IMPULSE (1) — *~ly adv* — **ness** *n* [U]

**im-pu-ni-ty** /ɪmˈpjʊːnɪti/ *n* with impunity without any danger of being punished

**im-pure** /ɪmˈpjʊə/ *adj* **1** not pure, but mixed with something else: *impure drugs* **2** morally bad, esp. with regard to sexual behaviour: *impure thoughts*

**im-pu-ri-ty** /ɪmˈpjʊərɪti/ *n* **1** [U] the state of being impure **2** [C] something that is impure or that makes something else impure: *Refined sugar has had all the impurities removed.*

**im-pu-ta-tion** /,ɪmpjʊ'teɪʃən/ *n* [(of, to)] *fml* **1** [U] the act of imputing something to someone **2** [C] a criminal charge or suggestion of something bad: *an imputation of guilt*

**im-pute** /ɪmˈpjʊt/ *v*

**impute** sthg. to sbdy./sthg. *phr v* [T] *fml* to claim that (someone or something) possesses or has done, esp. unjustly: *How can they impute such dishonourable motives to me?*

**in** /ɪn/ *prep* **1** (shows a position) a contained by (something with depth, length, and height); within (an enclosed space); inside: *We keep the money in a box.* | *Put*

*the plate in the cupboard.* | *She's in the bathroom.* | *to sit in a car* (compare *on a bicycle*) | *to go swimming in the sea* (compare *sailing on the sea*) | *lying in bed* (compare *lying on the bed, outside the covers*) | (*infml*) *He came in* (=into) *the room.* | *Get in* (=into) *the car!* | (*fig.*) *I wonder what's in his mind.* (=what he is thinking about or planning) (compare *I wonder what's on his mind* = what he is worrying about) **b** surrounded by (an area); within and not beyond (an open space): *cows in a field* | *The children are playing in the garden/in the street.* | *I saw a face in* (=within the frame of) *the window.* | *She had a cigarette in her mouth.* | *in the corner of the room* (compare *at the corner of Broadway and 42nd Street*) | *wounded in the leg* **2** (with the names of countries, seas, towns, and villages) not outside: *They live in London/in France.* | *an island in the Atlantic* **3** (with the name of a place connected with an activity) attending for the usual purpose: *in prison for stealing* | *in church praying* | *George is in hospital* (BrE) | *in the hospital* (AmE) *with a broken leg.* (compare *George works at the hospital.*) | (*esp. AmE*) *George is in school studying.* (=George is at school studying.) **4** being included as part of: *a character in a story* | *Can you see the mistake in this sentence?* | *an interesting article in today's paper* | *the people in this photograph* **5** (showing an area of employment or activity): *She's in business/in politics/in insurance.* | *a university degree in history* | *He was in conversation with a priest.* **6** wearing: *dressed in silk* | *a girl in red/in a fur coat* | *a man in armour/in uniform* **7** (showing direction of movement): *They drove off in the direction of London/in the wrong direction.* | *The wind is in the east.* (=coming from the east) | *The sun is in my eyes.* (=shining directly towards them) **8** using to express oneself; with or by means of: *Write it in pencil/in ink/in French.* | *printed in red* | *She called out in a loud voice.* **9** (with certain periods of time) at some time during; at the time of: *in January* | *in Spring* | *in 1986* | *in the 18th century* | *in the (early) afternoon* (compare *on Monday afternoon*) | *in the night* (compare *at night*) | *in his youth* | *in the 1930s* | *He was killed in the First World War.* | *in the past* **10** (with lengths of time) **a** during not more than (the space of): *He learnt English in three weeks.* (=and then he knew it) (compare *He learnt English for three weeks.*) **b** after; at the end of: *It'll be finished in five minutes.* | *It's two o'clock; I'll come in an hour.* (=at three o'clock) (compare *for an hour* = from two to three) — compare **in time** (TIME<sup>1</sup> (34)) **c** (often with negatives) during; for: *He hasn't had a good meal in weeks.* | *the first time I've seen her in two years* — compare WITHIN<sup>1</sup>; see FOR (USAGE) **11** (showing the way something is done or happens): *She looked at me in horror.* | *I don't like speaking in public.* (=publicly) | *in secret* (=secretly) | *speaking in anger/in fun* | *In all seriousness* (=I am speaking seriously) *I think you ought to give up your job.* **12** (showing the condition of a person or thing): *They were living in terrible poverty.* | *in difficulties* | *in danger* | *in good health* | *in ruins* | *in a hurry* | *in doubt* | *in tears* | *to befall in love* | *in a bad mood* **13** (showing division and arrangement) so as to be: *Pack them in tens.* (=ten in each parcel) | *in rows* | *in groups* | *We stood in a circle.* | *Cut it in two.* (=into two halves) **14** (showing a relation or PROPORTION) per: *to pay a tax of 40p in the pound* | *One child in twenty suffers from this disease.* **15** (showing quantity or number): *in large numbers* | *They arrived in (their) thousands.* | *in part* (=partly) **16** with regard to: *weak in judgment* | *lacking in courage* | *blind in one eye* | *better in every way* | *They're equal in distance.* | *10 feet in length/in depth* **17** as a/an; by way of: *What did you give him in return?* | *She said nothing in reply.* **18** (naming or describing who or what you mean): *In her I see a future leader.* | *You have a good friend in me.* | *unusual ability in such a young child* **19** [+v-ing] when; while: *In studying other cultures, you can learn more about your own.* — compare ON<sup>1</sup> (6) **20** in all together; as the total: *The cost of the repairs came to \$800 in all.* **21** in that because: *I'm in a slightly awkward position, in that my secretary is on holiday at the moment.* — see also INASMUCH

**in<sup>2</sup> adv** **1** (so as to be) contained or surrounded; away from the open air, the outside, etc.: *Open the box and put the money in.* | *The water looked warm so I jumped in.* | *strong walls to keep the prisoners in* | *Let's go in there where it's warm.* | (BrE) *a cup of tea with sugar in* (=with sugar in it) | *The door burst open and in they came.* (note word order) **2** (so as to be) present (esp. at home or under the



roof of a building): *I'm afraid Mr Jones is out, but he'll be in again soon.* | *Let's spend the evening in* (=at home) *watching television.* | *Some thieves broke in* (=entered the house) *while we were out.* | *"Come in!"* (said when someone knocks at a door) | *The train isn't in yet.* | *It will be in in five minutes.* **3 a** inwards; towards the middle: *There was a loud explosion and the walls fell in.* | *It curves in at the edges.* **b** from a number of people, or from all directions to a central point: *Letters of support have been coming/pouring in from all over the country.* | *Entries to the competition must be in by Monday.* | *to bring the harvest in* **4** so as to be added or included where not formerly present: *The picture is almost finished — I can paint in the sky/paint the sky in later.* | *Fill in your name and address on the form.* **5 a** (of one side in a game such as cricket) having a turn to BAT: *Our side were in/went in to bat first.* **b** (of the ball in a game such as tennis) inside the line **6 a** so as to have a position of power: *Do you think the Nationalist Party will get in again* (=be elected) *at the election?* **b** (so as to be) fashionable: *Long hair for men went out in the 1970s, but it's in again/it's come in again now.* **7** back towards the shore or coast: *The ship went out to sea, then sailed back in.* | *When does the tide come in?* (=When does the sea reach a high point close to the coast?) **8 be in at** to be present at (an event): *I want to be in at the finish.* **9 be in for** to be about to have (trouble, bad weather, etc.): *We're in for some trouble/in for it if we don't finish quickly.* **10 be/get in on** *infml* to take part in; have/get a share in: *I want to be in on the discussion too.* **11 be in with** *infml* to be friendly with: *He's (well) in with the Board of Directors.* **12 go/be in for** to enter/be entered on the list for (a competition) **13 have (got) it in for someone** *infml* to dislike someone and intend to harm them **14 in and out (of)** sometimes inside and sometimes outside: *He's been in and out of prison for years.*

**in**<sup>3</sup> *adj* **1** [A] directed inwards; used for sending or going in: *the in door* **2** [A] *infml* fashionable: *That new restaurant is the in place to go now.* | *the in crowd* (=people) **3** [A] shared by only a few favoured people; private: *an in joke* **4** [F] (of a fire) lit; burning: *Is the fire still in?* — see also **INS AND OUTS** — compare **ON**<sup>2</sup> (5)

**in-** see **WORD FORMATION**

**IN** written abbrev. for **INDIANA**

**in-a-bil-i-ty** /,ɪnə'bilɪti/ *n* [S;U+to-v] lack of power, skill, or ability: (an) *inability to work alone/to stop smoking*

**in-ac-ces-si-ble** /,ɪnək'sesɪbəl/ *adj* [(to)] difficult or impossible to reach — **bly adv** — **bility** /,ɪnək'sesɪ'bɪlɪti/ *n* [U]

**in-ac-cu-rate** /ɪn'ækjʊrɪt/ *adj* not correct; not **ACCURATE** — **ly adv** — **racy n** [C *usu. pl.*; U]

**in-ac-tion** /ɪn'ækʃən/ *n* [U] lack of action or activity; quality or state of doing nothing

**in-ac-tive** /ɪn'æktɪv/ *adj* not active — **ly adv** — **tivity** /,ɪnæk'tɪvɪti/ *n* [U]

**in-ad-e-qua-cy** /ɪn'ædʒkwɪsi/ *n* **1** [U] the quality of being inadequate: *a feeling of personal inadequacy* **2** [C *often pl.*] an example of incompleteness or poor quality; **SHORT-COMING**: *several inadequacies in your report*

**in-ad-e-quate** /ɪn'ædʒkwɪt/ *adj* [(to, for)] not good enough in quality, ability, size, etc. (for a particular purpose or activity); not **ADEQUATE**: *The food was inadequate for 14 people.* | *inadequate parking facilities/safety measures* | *She's so clever she makes me feel inadequate.* — **ly adv**

**in-ad-mis-si-ble** /,ɪnəd'mɪsɪbəl/ *adj* which cannot be allowed; not **ADMISSIBLE**: *This evidence is inadmissible in a court of law.* — **bly adv** — **bility** /,ɪnəd'mɪsɪ'bɪlɪti/ *n* [U]

**in-ad-ver-tent** /,ɪnəd'vɜ:tənt/ || -ɜ:r-/ *adj* (done) without paying attention or by accident — **ly adv**: *He inadvertently knocked over the bowl of flowers.* — **tence n** [U]

**in-a-li-e-na-ble** /ɪn'eɪliənəbəl/ *adj fml* which cannot be taken away (often in the phrase **inalienable rights**)

**i-nam-o-ra-ta** /ɪ,næmə'rɑ:tə/ *n* -tas /-təz/ *lit or old use* the woman whom a man loves — compare **PARAMOUR**

**i-nane** /ɪ'neɪn/ *adj* meaningless or extremely stupid: *an inane remark* — **ly adv** — **inanity** /ɪ'næni/ *n* [C *often pl.*; U]

**in-an-i-mate** /ɪn'ænɪmət/ *adj* not living; not **ANIMATE**: *A stone is an inanimate object.* — compare **DEAD**, **INORGANIC**

**in-ap-plic-a-ble** /,ɪnə'plɪkəbəl, ɪn'æplɪkəbəl/ *adj* [(to)] not

directly related to or not having an effect on; not **APPLICABLE**: *Most of the questions on the form were inapplicable to me.* — **bly adv** — **bility** /,ɪnə'plɪkə'bɪlɪti, ɪn'æplɪkə'bɪlɪti/ *n* [U]

**in-ap-pro-pri-ate** /,ɪnə'prəʊpri-ət/ *adj* [(for, to)] not suitable; not **APPROPRIATE**: *Your short dress is inappropriate for a formal party.* [+to-v] *It was a rather inappropriate moment (for us) to visit them.* — **ly adv**: *inappropriately dressed* — **ness n** [U]

**in-apt** /ɪn'æpt/ *adj fml* (of statements, ideas, etc.) unsuitable: *an inapt comment* — compare **INEPT** — **ly adv** — **ness n** [U]

**in-artic-u-late** /,ɪnɑ:'tɪkjʊlət/-ɑ:r-/ *adj* **1** (of speech) not well-formed; not clearly expressed **2** not speaking or expressing oneself clearly, so that the intended meaning is not expressed or is hard to understand; not **ARTICULATE** — **ly adv** — **ness n** [U]

**in-as-much** /,ɪnəz'mætʃ/ *adv fml* **inasmuch as** owing to the fact that; to the degree that: *Their father is also guilty, inasmuch as he knew what they were planning to do.*

**in-at-ten-tion** /,ɪnə'tenʃən/ *n* [U (to)] lack of attention: *inattention to detail*

**in-at-ten-tive** /,ɪnə'tentɪv/ *adj* [(to)] not giving attention: *an inattentive student* — **ly adv** — **ness n** [U]

**in-au-di-ble** /ɪn'ɔ:dɪbəl/ *adj* too quiet to be heard — compare **INVISIBLE** — **bly adv** — **bility** /ɪn'ɔ:dɪ'bɪlɪti/ *n* [U]

**in-au-gu-rate** /ɪ'nɔ:ɡjʊ'reɪt/ *v* [T] **1** to open (a new building or service) or start (a public event) with a ceremony **2** [*usu. pass.*] to introduce (someone important) into a new place or job by holding a special ceremony **3** to be the beginning of (something, esp. an important period of time): *The introduction of free milk in British schools inaugurated a period of better health for children.* — **ral adj** [A]: *an inaugural ceremony to open the new hospital* — **ration** /ɪ'nɔ:ɡjʊ'reɪʃən/ *n* [C;U]: *the president's inauguration* | *the inauguration ceremony*

**Inauguration Day** /-ˌɪnˌɔ:ɡjʊ'reɪʃən-/ the day an American president is inaugurated, which is always held on January 20. There is usually a **PARADE** and the new president makes a speech about what he plans for the US. — see picture on page 950

**in-aus-pi-cious** /,ɪnɔ:'spɪʃəs/ *adj fml* seeming to show that bad luck will come; not giving good hopes for the future; not **AUSPICIOUS** — **ly adv** — **ness n** [U]

**in-board** /'ɪnbɔ:d/-bɔ:rd/ *adj* inside a boat: *an inboard motor* — compare **OUTBOARD MOTOR**

**in-born** /,ɪn'bɔ:n/-ɔ:n/ *adj* present from birth; part of one's nature; **INNATE**: *Birds have an inborn ability to fly.*

**in-bound** /'ɪnbəʊnd/ *adj* **AmE** moving towards the speaker or the starting place; **INCOMING** — opposite **outbound**

**in-bred** /,ɪn'bred/ *adj* **1** having become part of one's nature as a result of early training: *inbred courtesy* **2** resulting from inbreeding

**in-breed-ing** /'ɪnbri:dɪŋ/ *n* [U] breeding from (closely) related members of a family: *Inbreeding is sometimes used to produce pure white animals or plants.* — compare **INTERBREED**

**inc** /ɪŋk/; *fml* /ɪn'kɔ:pəreɪtɪd/-ɔ:r-/ *adj* [after *n*] incorporated; (in the US) formed into a **CORPORATION** (1). An incorporated company may sell shares (**SHARE**<sup>1</sup> (2)) to raise money: *General Motors, Inc* — compare **LTD**, **PLC**

**In-ca** /'ɪŋkə/ *n* **Incas** or **Inca** [C;the+P] (a member of) a South American people of Peru who ruled a large area of the Andes from Ecuador to Chile in the 15th century until the Spanish destroyed their rule in the 16th century. The Incas are known especially for their achievements in building roads and cities.

**in-cal-cu-la-ble** /ɪn'kælkjələbəl/ *adj* **1** which cannot be counted or measured, esp. because too great or too many: *a policy that has done incalculable damage to our education service* **2** (esp. of people's feelings, character, etc.) changeable; **UNPREDICTABLE** — **bly adv**: *incalculably great/damaging*

**in-can-des-cent** /ɪnkæn'desənt/ || -kən-/ *adj* giving a bright light when heated — **ly adv** — **cence n** [U]

**in-can-ta-tion** /ɪnkæn'teɪʃən/ *n* [C;U] (the saying of) words used in magic

**in-ca-pa-ble** /ɪn'keɪpəbəl/ *adj* [F] **1** [+of] not having the power or ability to do something or show a quality: *He*



seems to be incapable of understanding simple instructions. | *incapable of kindness/hard work* | *I'm incapable of deceiving you.* **2** unable to behave in an ordinary sensible way: *He was arrested for being drunk and incapable.* —**bly** *adv* —**bility** /ɪnˌkeɪpəˈbɪlɪti/ *n* [U]

**in-ca-pa-ci-tate** /ɪnˌkæˈpæsɪteɪt/ *v* [T (for)] to make (someone) unable to do something: *incapacitated (for work) after the accident*

**in-ca-pa-ci-ty** /ɪnˌkæˈpæsɪti/ *n* [S;U (for)] lack of power or ability (to do something): *his incapacity for kindness/hard work*

**in-car-ce-rate** /ɪnˌkɑːsəreɪt/ *v* [T] *fml* to keep or shut (as if) in a prison —**ration** /ɪnˌkɑːsəˈreɪʃən/ *n* [U]

**in-car-nate** <sup>1</sup> /ɪnˌkɑːnəteɪt/ *adj* in physical form rather than in the form of a spirit or idea: [after *n*] *the devil incarnate*

**in-car-nate** <sup>2</sup> /ɪnˌkɑːneɪt/ *v* [T (in, as)] **1** [*usu. pass.*] to put (an idea, spirit, etc.) into bodily form **2** [*often pass.*] to EMBODY (2)

**in-car-na-tion** /ɪnˌkɑːˈneɪʃən/ *n* **1** [U] the act of incarnating or state of being incarnate **2** [C] time passed in a particular bodily form or state: *She believed that in a previous incarnation she had been an Egyptian queen.* —see also REINCARNATION **3** [*the+of*] a person or thing that is the perfect example of a quality —compare PERSONIFICATION: *She's the incarnation of goodness.*

**Incarnation** [*the*] (in Christianity) the coming of God to Earth in the body of Jesus Christ. The Christian belief is that there was a union of God and Man in Jesus Christ.

**in-cau-tious** /ɪnˌkɔːʃəs/ *adj* not showing careful thought; (doing things) which will lead to trouble: *His incautious remark was seized upon by the newspapers.* —**ly** *adv* —**ness** *n* [U]

**in-cen-di-a-ris-m** /ɪnˌsendɪərɪzəm/ *n* [U] incendiary action or behaviour

**in-cen-di-a-ry** /ɪnˌsendɪəri/ *adj* [A] **1** causing fires: *an incendiary bomb/device* **2** (of a person or behaviour) causing or intended to cause trouble or anger; INFLAMMATORY

**in-cense** <sup>1</sup> /ɪnˌsens/ *n* [U] any of several substances that give off a sweet smell when burnt, esp. as used in religious services

**in-cense** <sup>2</sup> /ɪnˌsens/ *v* [T *often pass.*] to make (someone) extremely angry; OUTRAGE: *We were incensed by/at their bad behaviour.* —see ANNOY (USAGE)

**in-cen-tive** /ɪnˌsentɪv/ *n* [C;U (to)] something which encourages one to greater activity: *His interest gave me an incentive and I worked twice as hard.* | *incentive payments to increase productivity* | *The promise of a bonus acted as an incentive to greater effort.* [+to-v] *Our research has not shown us anything so far, so there is little incentive to continue with it.* —opposite **disincentive**

**in-cep-tion** /ɪnˌsepʃən/ *n* [*usu. sing.*] *fml* the beginning: *The programme has been successful since its inception.*

**in-cer-ti-tude** /ɪnˌsɜːtɪtjuːd/ *n* [U] *pomp* uncertainty

**in-ces-sant** /ɪnˌsesənt/ *adj* (esp. of something bad) continuous over a long period of time; never stopping: *tired of his incessant complaining* —**ly** *adv*

**in-cest** /ɪnˌsest/ *n* [U] a forbidden sexual relationship between close relatives in a family, e.g. between brother and sister or parent and child, *usu.* considered unnatural and in most countries against the law

**in-ces-tu-ous** /ɪnˌsestʃuəs/ *adj* **1** of or performing acts of incest: *an incestuous relationship* **2** *esp. derog* (of relationships) unusually close, esp. in a way that does not include people from outside or that is thought to be unhealthy: *Publishing can be rather incestuous, with senior staff always moving around from firm to firm.* —**ly** *adv* —**ness** *n* [U]

**inch** <sup>1</sup> /ɪntʃ/ *n* **1** a unit for measuring length —see TABLE **2** **2** a very small amount or distance: *The car got through the gate with hardly an inch to spare.* | *They have sworn to defend every inch of their territory.* | *The bus missed our car by inches.* (=almost hit it) **3** *inch by inch* by small degrees or stages **4** *every inch* completely; in all ways: *every inch a gentleman* **5** *Give him an inch and he'll take a yard/a mile* If you allow him a little freedom or power he'll try to get a lot more **6** *within an inch of*

very near: *We came within an inch of death.* **7** *not give/budge an inch* not to change one's opinions when other people try to make you agree to theirs: *I tried every argument, but she didn't budge an inch.*

**inch** <sup>2</sup> *v* [I+*adv/prep*; T+*obj+adv/prep*] to (cause to) move slowly and with difficulty: *I inched (my way) through the narrow space between the cars.* | *We inched the heavy box along the corridor.*

**in-cho-ate** /ɪnˌkəʊəteɪt/ *adj fml* (of desires, wishes, plans, etc.) at the beginning of development; not fully formed

**in-ci-dence** /ɪnˌsɪdəns/ *n* [S (of)] the rate at which something, esp. something undesirable, happens or exists: *There's a high incidence of disease/burglary there.*

**in-ci-dent** /ɪnˌsɪdənt/ *n* **1** an event; a happening, esp. one that is unusual: *one of the strangest incidents in my life* | *We completed the journey without further incident.* (=with nothing unusual happening) **2** an event that includes or leads to violence, danger, or serious disagreement: *The attack was the latest in a series of incidents in the area.* | *The spy scandal caused a diplomatic incident.*

**in-ci-den-tal** <sup>1</sup> /ɪnˌsɪdəntəl/ *adj* [(to)] happening or existing in connection with something else that is more important: *an event incidental to the main action* | *minor, incidental details* | *You are allowed to claim for the incidental expenses of a business trip, such as taxi fares and food.*

**incidental** <sup>2</sup> *n* [*usu. pl.*] something incidental, esp. something that is needed after the main things have been done, bought, etc.: *We'd better leave some money to pay for incidentals.*

**in-ci-den-tal-ly** /ɪnˌsɪdəntəli/ *adv* (used for adding something to what was said before, either on the same or another subject) by the way: *I must go now. Incidentally, if you want that book I'll bring it next time.*

▷ **USAGE** Incidentally like *by the way* can be used to introduce an important subject while making it seem as if it is not really very important to you: *Incidentally, I think you still owe me some money.* —see also WAY (USAGE) ◁

**incidental mu-sic** /ɪnˌsɪdəntəlˈmjuːzɪk/ *n* [U] descriptive music played during a play, film, etc. to give the right feeling or to go with the action

**in-cin-e-rate** /ɪnˌsɪnəreɪt/ *v* [T *often pass.*] to destroy (unwanted things) by burning —**ration** /ɪnˌsɪnəˈreɪʃən/ *n* [U]

**in-cin-e-ra-tor** /ɪnˌsɪnəreɪtə/ *n* a machine or container for burning unwanted things

**in-cip-i-ent** /ɪnˌsɪpiənt/ *adj fml* or *med* at an early stage: *incipient disease* —**ly** *adv* —**ence, -ency** *n* [U]

**in-cise** /ɪnˌsaɪz/ *v* [T (in, into) *often pass.*] *tech* to make (a cut) into (something)

**in-ci-sion** /ɪnˌsɪʒən/ *n* [C;U (in, into)] *tech, esp. med* (the act of making) a cut into something, done with a special tool: *An incision was made into the diseased organ.*

**in-ci-sive** /ɪnˌsaɪsɪv/ *adj* *apprec* going directly to the main point of the matter that is being considered: *incisive comments/questions* —**ly** *adv* —**ness** *n* [U]

**in-ci-sor** /ɪnˌsaɪzə/ *n* any of the teeth at the front of the mouth, which have one cutting edge. In humans there are four in each jaw. —compare CANINE TOOTH, MOLAR, and see picture at TEETH

**in-cite** /ɪnˌsaɪt/ *v* [T (to)] to cause or encourage (someone) to (a strong feeling or action); PROVOKE: *He was charged with inciting a riot/inciting the crowd to rebellion.* [+*obj+to-v*] *He incited them to rise up against their officers.* —**ment** *n* [U (to)] : *Incitement to violence is sometimes a crime.*

**in-ci-vil-i-ty** /ɪnˌsɪvɪlɪti/ *n* [C;U] *fml* (an act of) impoliteness

**in-clem-ent** /ɪnˌklemənt/ *adj fml* (of weather) bad, esp. cold or stormy —**ency** *n* [U]

**in-cli-na-tion** /ɪnˌklɪˈneɪʃən/ *n* **1** [C *often pl.*; U (for, to, towards)] what one likes or wants to do; liking; PREFERENCE: *You always follow your own inclinations instead of thinking of our feelings.* [+to-v] *I've no inclination to change my job.* **2** [C+to-v] *fml* a tendency: *an inclination to see everything in political terms* **3** [C (of) *usu. sing.*] a movement from a higher to a lower level: *a slight inclination of her head* **4** [S] a slope; a sloping surface

**in-cline** <sup>1</sup> /ɪnˌklaɪn/ *v* [*not usu. in progressive forms*] **1** [T] to influence or encourage (someone) to have a



particular feeling, belief etc.: [+obj+to-v] *Her arguments incline me to change my mind.* [+obj+adv/prep] *Her arguments incline me towards a different view of the matter.* 2 [I] a to tend (to); feel drawn (esp. to a particular belief or idea): [+to-v] *I incline to take the opposite point of view.* [+adv/prep, esp. to, towards] *I think she inclines towards our point of view.* b to be likely to show a particular state or quality: [+to-v] *I incline to get tired easily.* [+adv/prep, esp. to, towards] (fml) *I incline to/towards tiredness in winter.* —compare INCLINED (2) 3 [T] to cause to move downwards: *to incline one's head (in greeting)* 4 [I;T] to (cause to) slope

**in-cline**<sup>2</sup> /'ɪnkleɪn/ *n* a slope: a steep incline

**in-clined** /ɪn'kleɪnd/ *adj* [F+to-v] 1 encouraged; feeling a wish (to): *The news makes me inclined to change my mind.* 2 likely; tending (to): *I'm inclined to get tired easily.*

**in-close** /ɪn'kləʊz/ *v* [T] to ENCLOSE

**in-closure** /ɪn'kləʊʒə/ *n* [C;U] (an) ENCLOSURE

**in-clude** /ɪn'kluːd/ *v* [T(in)] 1 [not in progressive forms] to have as a part; contain in addition to other parts: *The price includes postage charges.* | *Is service included in the bill?* [+v-ing] *My job doesn't include making coffee for the boss!* —see COMPREHEND (USAGE) 2 to put in with something or someone else; take in or consider as part of a group, set, etc.: *Please include me in the list.* | (humor) *Include me out!* (=I don't want to be included.) | *There are six of us in the family, or seven if you include the dog.* —opposite exclude

**in-clud-ed** /ɪn'kluːdɪd/ *adj* [after *n*] including: *all of us, me included*

**in-clud-ing** /ɪn'kluːdɪŋ/ *prep* having as a part; which includes: *six people, including three women* | *all of us, including me* | *I'm ordering some extra office equipment, including some new desks and a word processor.* —opposite excluding

**in-clu-sion** /ɪn'kluːʒən/ *n* 1 [U (in)] the act of including or the state of being included: *The editor was against the inclusion of a gossip column in the newspaper.* —opposite exclusion 2 [C] something that is included

**in-clu-sive** /ɪn'kluːsɪv/ *adj* 1 also **all-inclusive**—containing or including everything (or many things): *an inclusive charge* | *It's an all-inclusive price; there's nothing extra to pay.* 2 [(of) after *n*] (of a price or charge) including other costs that are often paid separately: *The rent is £80 inclusive (of heating charges).* 3 [after *n*] esp. BrE including all the numbers or dates: *from the 5th to the 18th inclusive* —see USAGE —~ly *adv*

▷ USAGE American speakers often use **through** in expressions where British speakers use **inclusive**: *Monday to Friday inclusive (BrE)* | *Monday through Friday (AmE).* ◁

**in-cog-ni-to** /ɪn'kɒg'nɪtəʊ/ || ɪn'kɑːg-/ *adj, adv* [F] hiding one's IDENTITY (=who one is), esp. by taking another name when one's own is well-known: *travelling incognito*

**in-co-her-ent** /ɪn'kəʊ'hɪərənt/ *adj* showing an inability to express oneself clearly, with suitable connections between ideas or words: *the incoherent ravings of a madman* | *She became quite incoherent as the disease got worse.* —~ly *adv* —~ence *n* [U]

**in-come** /ɪ'ɪŋkʌm, 'ɪn-/ *n* [C;U] money which one receives regularly, usu. as payment for one's work or interest from INVESTMENTS: *Half of our income goes on rent.* | *government help for low-income families* | *People on fixed incomes are hurt by inflation.* | *to live within one's income* | *unearned income* (=income from savings, industrial shares, etc., rather than from work) | *a private income* (=an income provided by one's family rather than earned by working) —compare EXPENDITURE, OUTGOINGS; see PAY<sup>1</sup> (USAGE)

**incomes pol-i-cy** /ɪ'ɪŋkʌm, 'ɪn-/ *n* a government policy to slow down the continuing rise in prices by setting limits on wage increases

**income sup-port** /ɪ'ɪŋkʌm, 'ɪn-/ *n* [U] BrE (in Britain) a payment made by the government to people who do not have enough money to live on, e.g. the old or unemployed, introduced in 1988 to replace SUPPLEMENTARY BENEFIT —compare UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT, WELFARE, and see also SOCIAL SECURITY

**income tax** /ɪ'ɪŋkʌm, 'ɪn-/ *n* [C;U] (a) direct tax on one's income. In Britain and the US, people with higher incomes pay

a higher rate of tax than people with lower incomes. Governments often make changes to the system for economic or political reasons. Many people try to find legal ways to avoid paying income tax, and most people complain about paying it, but the Inland Revenue (in the US, the Internal Revenue Service) checks to see that people are paying what they should, and can take people to court if they do not.

**income tax re-turn** /ɪ'ɪŋkʌm, 'ɪn-/ *n* a form which is filled in each year by income tax payers who state how much they have earned and what money they do not have to pay tax on, and is used to calculate how much tax they must pay

**in-com-ing** /ɪn'kʌmɪŋ/ *adj* [A] arriving, coming in, starting a period in office: *the incoming tide* | *the incoming president* | *incoming radio signals* —compare OUTGOING

**in-com-mode** /ɪn'kʌm'ɒd/ also **discommode**— *v* [T] fml or pomp to cause (someone) inconvenience

**in-com-mo-di-ous** /ɪn'kʌm'ɒdiəs/ *adj* usu. lit or fml not convenient, satisfactory, or large enough —~ly *adv*

**in-com-mu-ni-ca-do** /ɪn'kʌmjuːnɪ'kɑːdɒ/ *adv* (of people) kept away from people outside, and not able to give or receive messages: *The prisoner was held incommunicado.*

**in-com-pa-ra-ble** /ɪn'kɒmpərəbəl/ —'kɑːm-/ *adj* too great in degree or amount to be compared; without equal; not COMPARABLE: *incomparable wealth/beauty* —~bly *adv*: *This model is incomparably the best/incomparably better than the others.* —~bility /ɪn'kɒmpərə'bɪlɪti/ —'kɑːm-/ *n* [U]

**in-com-pat-i-ble** /ɪn'kʌm'pætɪbəl/ *adj* [(with)] not suitable to be together with (another thing or person/each other): *Those two are basically incompatible; I'm sure they'll soon get divorced.* | *An expensive project like this is incompatible with the government's aim of reducing public spending.* | *The two ideas are mutually incompatible.* (=each prevents the other) | *The two computer systems are incompatible with each other.* (=cannot be used together) —~bly *adv* —~bility /ɪn'kʌmpætɪ'bɪlɪti/ *n* [U]

**in-com-pe-tence** /ɪn'kɒmpɛtəns/ —'kɑːm-/ *n* [U] lack of ability and skill, resulting in bad work

**in-com-pe-tent** /ɪn'kɒmpɛtənt/ —'kɑːm-/ *adj* completely lacking skill or ability: *an incompetent teacher* [F+to-v] *quite incompetent to be the leader* —**incompetent** *n*: a hopeless incompetent —~ly *adv*

**in-com-plete** /ɪn'kʌm'plɪt/ *adj* not complete —~ly *adv* —~ness *n* [U]

**in-com-pre-hen-si-ble** /ɪn'kɒmprɪ'hensɪbəl/ —'kɑːm-/ *adj* [(to)] difficult or impossible to understand: *incomprehensible behaviour* | *His signature was an incomprehensible scrawl.* —~bly *adv* —~bility /ɪn'kɒmprɪ'hensɪ'bɪlɪti/ —'kɑːm-/ *n* [U]

**in-com-pre-hen-sion** /ɪn'kɒmprɪ'hensjən/ —'kɑːm-/ *n* [U] the state of not understanding

**in-con-cei-va-ble** /ɪn'kən'siːvəbəl/ *adj* too strange to be thought real or possible; impossible to imagine: *It once seemed inconceivable that people should travel to the moon.* —~bly *adv* —~bility /ɪn'kən'siːvə'bɪlɪti/ *n* [U]

**in-con-clu-sive** /ɪn'kən'kluːsɪv/ *adj* not leading to a clear decision or result: *inconclusive evidence* | *an inconclusive meeting between the unions and the management* —~ly *adv* —~ness *n* [U]

**in-con-gru-i-ty** /ɪn'kən'gruːɪti/ *n* 1 [U] also **in-con-gru-ous-ness** /ɪn'kɒngruəsənəs/ —'kɑːŋ-/ the state of being incongruous 2 [C] an act or event which seems strange and out of place because of its difference from what is happening around it

**in-con-gru-ous** /ɪn'kɒngruəs/ —'kɑːŋ-/ *adj* strange or surprising in relation to the surroundings; out of place: *a modern building that looks incongruous in that quaint old village* —~ly *adv*

**in-con-se-quen-tial** /ɪn'kɒnsɪ'kwɛntʃəl/ —'kɑːn-/ *adj* unimportant; INSIGNIFICANT: *an inconsequential event* —~ly *adv* —~tiality /ɪn'kɒnsɪ'kwɛntʃi'ælɪti/ —'kɑːn-/ *n* [U]

**in-con-sid-e-ra-ble** /ɪn'kən'sɪdərəbəl/ *adj* rather small; not worth considering: *a not inconsiderable* (=quite large) *sum of money* —compare CONSIDERABLE

**in-con-sid-er-ate** /ɪn'kən'sɪdərɪt/ *adj* derog not thinking of other people's feelings; thoughtless: *It was rather inconsiderate of her to keep us waiting like that.* —~ly *adv* —~ness *n* [U]



- in-con-sis-tent** /,ɪnkən'sɪstənt/ *adj* 1 [(with)] (of ideas, opinions, etc.) not in agreement with each other or with something else: *What the government is saying now is inconsistent with its earlier statement on this subject.* | *The two statements are inconsistent.* | *He felt that his job in the bank was inconsistent with his socialist principles.* 2 tending to change; ERRATIC: *Her work is rather inconsistent — sometimes it's very good and sometimes it's awful.* —opposite **consistent** —~ly *adv* —tency *n* [C;U]
- in-con-so-la-ble** /,ɪnkən'səʊləbəl/ *adj* too sad to be comforted: *She was inconsolable (at the loss of her friend).* | *inconsolable grief.* —bly *adv*
- in-con-spic-u-ous** /,ɪnkən'spɪkjʊəs/ *adj* not easily seen or noticed; not attracting attention —~ly *adv* —~ness *n* [U]
- in-con-stant** /ɪn'kɒnstənt/ [-'kɑ:n-/ *adj* *fml* (of people or behaviour) tending to change; unfaithful in feeling: *an inconstant lover* —stancy *n* [C *usu. pl.*;U]
- in-con-tes-ta-ble** /,ɪnkən'testəbəl/ *adj* clearly true; INDISPUTABLE: *incontestable proof* —bly *adv* —bility /,ɪnkəntestə'bɪlɪti/ *n* [U]
- in-con-ti-nent** /ɪn'kɒntɪnənt/ [-'kɑ:n-/ *adj* 1 unable to control the passing of URINE and FAECES from the body 2 *lit* or *old use* unable to control oneself sexually —opposite **continent** —nence *n* [U]
- in-con-tro-ver-ti-ble** /ɪn,kɒntrə'vɜ:tɪbəl/ [ɪn,kɑ:ntrə'vɜ:r-/ *adj* *fml* impossible to disprove; INDISPUTABLE —bly *adv*
- in-con-ve-ni-ence** /,ɪnkən'vɪniəns/ *n* 1 [U] a state of difficulty, discomfort, or annoyance: *The station authorities apologized for any inconvenience caused by the late arrival of the train.* 2 [C] something that causes inconvenience: *It's no inconvenience to drive you to the station.* —see also **CONVENIENCE**
- inconvenience** <sup>2</sup> *v* [T] to cause inconvenience to: *I hope it won't inconvenience you to drive me to the station.*
- in-con-ve-ni-ent** /,ɪnkən'vɪniənt/ *adj* causing difficulty, discomfort, or annoyance; not **CONVENIENT**: *The meeting is at an inconvenient time (for me): I'm afraid I can't come.* —~ly *adv*
- in-cor-po-rate** /ɪn'kɔ:pəreɪt/ [-ɔ:r-/ *v* [T (in, into, with)] to make (something) a part of a group or of something larger; include: *They incorporated her suggestions into their plans.* | *The new plan incorporates the old one.* | *a new desktop computer incorporating an electronic mail facility* —ration /ɪn,kɔ:pə'reɪʃən/ [-ɔ:r-/ *n* [U]
- in-cor-po-rat-ed** /ɪn'kɔ:pəreɪtɪd/ [-ɔ:r-/ *adj* see **INC**
- in-cor-po-re-al** /,ɪnkɔ:'pɔ:riəl/ [-kɔ:r-/ *adj* *fml* without a body; not made of any material substance —~ly *adv*
- in-cor-rect** /,ɪnkə'rekt/ *adj* not correct —~ly *adv* —~ness *n* [U]
- in-cor-ri-gi-ble** /ɪn'kɒrɪdʒɪbəl/ [-'kɔ:r-/ *adj* often not *derog* (of people or behaviour) very bad and unable to be changed or improved: *He's an incorrigible liar!* —bly *adv*: *incorrigibly naughty* —bility /ɪn,kɒrɪdʒɪ'bɪlɪti/ [-,kɔ:r-/ *n* [U]
- in-cor-rup-ti-ble** /,ɪnkə'rʌptɪbəl/ *adj* 1 too honest to be improperly influenced or bribed (**BRIBE**) 2 which cannot decay or be destroyed —see also **CORRUPT** —bly *adv*: *incorruptibly honest* —bility /,ɪnkə'rʌptɪ'bɪlɪti/ *n* [U]
- in-crease** <sup>1</sup> /ɪn'kri:s/ *v* [I;T] to make or become larger in amount, number, or degree: *The population of this town has increased.* | *They have increased the price of petrol by almost 20%.* | *This method should lead to increased efficiency.* | *increasing difficulty* | *Her remarks have increased speculation about a possible fall in interest rates.* —opposite **decrease**; compare **REDUCE**
- in-crease** <sup>2</sup> /ɪn'kri:s/ *n* 1 [(in)] a rise in amount, numbers, or degree: *an increase in crime* —opposite **decrease**; compare **REDUCTION** 2 **on the increase** increasing: *Crime is on the increase.*
- in-creas-ing-ly** /ɪn'kri:sɪŋli/ *adv* more and more all the time: *I find it increasingly difficult to live within my income.*
- in-cred-i-ble** /ɪn'kredɪbəl/ *adj* 1 too strange to be believed; unbelievable or very hard to believe: *an incredible idea/excuse* | *That's the most incredible coincidence I've ever heard of!* —see also **CREDIBLE** 2 *infml* wonderful; unbelievably good: *She has an incredible house!* —bility /ɪn'kredɪ'bɪlɪti/ *n* [U]
- Incredible Hulk** /,ɪn'krɪdəbl̩/ [the] a character in **COMICS** <sup>2</sup> (1), films and television, a man who sometimes changed into a very large green person with great strength but kept his ordinary human feelings
- in-cred-i-bly** /ɪn'kredɪbli/ *adv* 1 very; extremely: *an incredibly nice/stupid man* 2 in a way that is hard to believe: *Incredibly, the smallest horse won the race!*
- in-cre-du-li-ty** /,ɪnkrɪ'dju:lɪti/ [-'dʊz-/ *n* [U] disbelief: *She gave me a look of complete incredulity.*
- in-cred-u-lous** /ɪn'kredjʊləs/ [-dʒə-/ *adj* showing disbelief: *an incredulous look* —see also **CREDULOUS** —~ly *adv* —~ness *n* [U]
- in-cre-ment** /'ɪŋkrɪmənt/ *n* an increase in money or value: *an annual increment in one's salary* —~al /,ɪŋkrɪ'mentl̩/ *adj* —~ally *adv*
- in-crim-i-nate** /ɪn'krɪmɪneɪt/ *v* [T] to cause (someone) to seem guilty of a crime or fault: *incriminating evidence* —~nation /ɪn,krɪmɪ'neɪʃən/ *n* [U]
- in-crus-ta-tion** /,ɪnkrʌ'steɪʃən/ *n* [(of)] dirt or other material that is laid down on top of something else and forms a **LAYER**: *incrustations of salt*
- in-cu-bate** /'ɪŋkjʊbeɪt/ *v* [I;T] 1 **a** (of eggs) to be kept warm until the young birds come out **b** to sit on and keep (eggs) warm until the young birds come out 2 *med a* to be holding in one's body (an infection which is going to develop into a disease) **b** (of such an infection) to be incubated in the body —bation /,ɪŋkjʊ'beɪʃən/ *n* [U]: *the incubation period (of a disease)*
- in-cu-ba-tor** /'ɪŋkjʊbeɪtə/ *n* a heated container for a keeping eggs warm until the young birds come out **b** keeping alive **PREMATURE** babies (=babies that are still too small to live and breathe in ordinary air)
- in-cu-bus** /'ɪŋkjʊbəs/ *n* -buses or -bi /baɪ/ 1 a male devil supposed to have sex with a sleeping woman —compare **SUCCUBUS** 2 **a** a very worrying problem **b** *lit* a bad dream; **NIGHTMARE**
- in-cul-cate** /'ɪŋkʌlkeɪt/ [ɪn'kʌl-/ *v* [T] *fml* to fix (ideas, principles, etc.) in the mind of (someone): [+obj+in/into] *They inculcated the will to succeed in all their children.* [+obj+with] *They inculcated all their children with the will to succeed.* —cation /,ɪŋkʌl'keɪʃən/ *n* [U]
- in-cul-pate** /'ɪŋkʌlpeɪt/ [ɪn'kʌl-/ *v* [T] *fml* to show that (someone) is guilty of crime; **INCRIMINATE**
- in-cum-ben-cy** /ɪn'kʌmbənsɪ/ *n* the period in office of an incumbent: *during his incumbency as president*
- in-cum-bent** <sup>1</sup> /ɪn'kʌmbənt/ *n* 1 a priest in the Church of England who is in charge of a church and its **PARISH** 2 the holder of an official position, esp. a political one
- incumbent** <sup>2</sup> *adj* 1 [F+on/upon] *fml* being the duty or responsibility (of someone): *It's incumbent on the purchaser to check the contract before signing.* 2 [A] holding the stated office: *the incumbent priest* | *the incumbent president*
- in-cur** /ɪn'kʊr/ *v* -rr- [T] to receive (esp. something unpleasant) as a result of one's actions; bring upon oneself: *I incurred her displeasure somehow; was it something I said?* | *Invoice the company for any expenses that you incur in the course of your work.* | *The company incurred heavy losses in its first year.*
- in-cur-a-ble** /ɪn'kjuərəbəl/ *adj* that cannot be cured: *an incurable disease* | (fig.) *an incurable optimist* —bly *adv* —bility /ɪn,kjuərə'bɪlɪti/ *n* [U]
- in-cu-ri-ous** /ɪn'kjuəriəs/ *adj* lacking natural interest in things; not **CURIOUS** to know more: *incurious about the outside world*
- in-cur-sion** /ɪn'kʊrɪʃən, -ʒən/ [ɪn'kʊrɪʒən/ *n* [often *pl.*] *fml* a sudden attack on or entrance into a place which belongs to other people: *Enemy forces have made incursions into our territory.* —compare **INROADS**
- in-debt-ed** /ɪn'detɪd/ *adj* [+to] very grateful to (someone) for help given: *I'm indebted to all the people who worked so hard to make the party a success.* —~ness *n* [U(to)]
- in-de-cent** /ɪn'di:sənt/ *adj* 1 morally offensive, esp. sexually improper: *an indecent remark/joke* —compare **IM-MODEST** (2) 2 *infml* not reasonable; not suitable (in amount or quality): *You've given us an indecent amount of work to do. (=too much)* | *He left with indecent haste. (=too fast)* —~ly *adv*: *indecently dressed* —cency *n* [U]
- indecent as-sault** /,ɪn'.. 'sɔ:l/ *n* [C;U] *law* an attack on a person which includes some form of sexual violence
- indecent ex-po-sure** /,ɪn'.. 'sɔ:/ *n* [U] the intentional showing of part of one's body (esp. the male sex organ) in a place where this is likely to offend people; **EXHIBITIONISM** —see also **FLASHER** (2), (2)



**in-de-ci-pher-a-ble** /,ɪndɪ'saɪfərəbəl/ *adj* which cannot be deciphered (DECIPHER) or understood — **bly** *adv* — **bility** /,ɪndɪ'saɪfərə'bɪlɪti/ *n* [U]

**in-de-ci-sion** /,ɪndɪ'sɪʒən/ also **in-de-ci-sive-ness** /,ɪndɪ'saɪsɪvnəs/ — *n* [U] a state of being unable to decide between two things, possible courses of action, etc.

**in-de-ci-sive** /,ɪndɪ'saɪsɪv/ *adj* 1 having or showing inability to make decisions: *a weak and indecisive leader* 2 giving an uncertain result; INCONCLUSIVE: *an indecisive answer/battle* — **ly** *adv*

**in-dec-o-rous** /ɪn'dekərəs/ *adj* *fml* or *euph* showing bad manners — **ly** *adv* — **ness** *n* [U]

**in-deed** /ɪn'di:d/ *adv* 1 *rather fml* (used for making an answer more forceful) certainly; really: *Yes, it is indeed beautiful weather.* | *"Did you hear the explosion?" "Indeed I did."* 2 it is even true (that): *I didn't mind. Indeed, I was pleased.* | *They'll be surprised when they get here, if indeed they get here at all.* 3 (used after **very** + adjective or adverb for making the meaning even stronger): *The crowds were very large indeed.* | *We enjoyed it very much indeed.* 4 (showing surprise and often disbelief, unfavourable interest, or annoyance): *"He left without finishing his work." "Did he, indeed?"* | *"I earn \$1,000 a minute." "Indeed!"* | *"Why would he say such a strange thing?" "Why indeed?"*

**in-de-fat-i-ga-ble** /,ɪndɪ'fætɪgəbəl/ *adj* showing no sign of ever getting tired — **bly** *adv*

**in-de-fen-si-ble** /,ɪndɪ'fensɪbəl/ *adj* 1 too bad to be excused or defended: *indefensible behaviour* 2 which cannot be defended: *The enemy's position is indefensible.* — **bly** *adv*

**in-de-fi-na-ble** /,ɪndɪ'faɪnəbəl/ *adj* difficult or impossible to DEFINE or describe: *an indefinable air of tension in the town* — **bly** *adv*

**in-def-i-nite** /ɪn'defənɪt/ *adj* 1 not clear; not PRECISE: *indefinite opinions* | *indefinite responsibilities* 2 not fixed, esp. as to time: *absent for an indefinite period* | *an indefinite ban on imports of gold* — see also DEFINITE, INDEFINITELY — **ness** *n* [U]

**indefinite ar-ti-cle** /,ɪndɪ'fɪnɪt/ *n* 1 (in English) the words "a" or "an" 2 (in other languages) a word used like "a" and "an" — compare DEFINITE ARTICLE; see also ARTICLE<sup>1</sup> (4)

**in-def-i-nite-ly** /ɪn'defənɪtli/ *adv* 1 for a period of time without a fixed end: *You can keep the book indefinitely.* | *postponed indefinitely* 2 in an indefinite way — see also DEFINITELY

**in-del-i-ble** /ɪn'delɪbəl/ *adj* which makes marks that cannot be rubbed out: *indelible ink* | *an indelible pencil* | (fig.) *an indelible stain on his character* — **bly** *adv* : *an experience indelibly printed on my memory*

**in-del-i-cate** /ɪn'delɪkət/ *adj* not careful enough to avoid offending people's feelings; improper: *It was rather indelicate of her to mention her urinary problems at dinner.* — **ly** *adv* — **cacy** *n* [U]

**in-dem-ni-fi-ca-tion** /ɪn,demnɪfɪ'keɪʃən/ *n* [(against, for)] 1 [U] the act of indemnifying or state of being indemnified 2 [C;U] money or something else received to repair the effect of loss or damage; INDEMNITY (2)

**in-dem-ni-fy** /ɪn'demnɪfaɪ/ *v* [T] 1 [(against, for)] to promise to pay (someone) in case of loss or damage 2 [(for)] to pay (someone) for loss, hurt, or damage

**in-dem-ni-ty** /ɪn'demnɪti/ *n* 1 [U] protection against loss, esp. in the form of a promise to pay — see also DOUBLE INDEMNITY 2 [C] payment for loss of money, goods, etc.: *When a country has been defeated in war, it sometimes has to pay an indemnity to the victors*

**in-dent**<sup>1</sup> /ɪn'dent/ *v* 1 [T] to make a usu. toothlike or V-shaped mark on the surface or edge of; NOTCH: *an indented surface/coastline* 2 [T] to start (a line of writing) further into the page than the others: *In English, the first line of a new paragraph is often indented.* 3 [I (for)] esp. BrE to order goods by indent

**in-dent**<sup>2</sup> /'ɪndent/ *n* [(for)] esp. BrE 1 an order for goods to be sent abroad, or for stores in the army 2 an official, usu. written, order for goods

**in-den-ta-tion** /,ɪnden'teɪʃən/ *n* 1 [U] the act of indenting or state of being indented 2 [C] a space made as if by cutting into something: *the indentations in a coastline* 3 [C] a space at the beginning of a line of writing, esp. at the beginning of a new PARAGRAPH

**in-den-ture**<sup>1</sup> /ɪn'dentʃər/ also **indentures** *pl.* — *n* a formal contract, esp. one in former times between an APPRENTICE and his master

**indenture**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T(to, as)] to cause to enter employment on conditions stated in indentures: *an indentured bricklayer*

► **CULTURAL NOTE** Some indentured servants in the 1600s to 1800s would agree to work in America for their employers for five to seven years in return for their employers paying for them to travel to America. ◀

**in-de-pen-dence** /,ɪndɪ'pendəns/ *n* [U] 1 [(from)] the quality or state of being independent; freedom: *This money gives me independence from my family.* | *Nigeria gained independence from Britain in 1960.* | *political and economic independence* — compare LIBERTY 2 the time when a country becomes politically independent: *The country has made great progress since independence.*

**Independence Day** /,ɪn'pendəns/ see FOURTH OF JULY

**Independence Hall** /,ɪn'pendəns/ the building in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, where the Declaration of Independence was signed, which today is visited by many tourists

**in-de-pen-dent** /,ɪndɪ'pendənt/ *adj* [(of)] 1 [no comp.] not governed by another country; self-governing: *India became independent (of Britain) in 1947.* 2 *usu. apprec* not depending on the help, advice, or opinions of others; habitually taking actions or decisions alone. This is *usu.* considered admirable in most Western countries: *She went on holiday alone — she's very independent.* 3 [no comp.] earning or providing enough money to live on, so that one does not have to depend on others. This is *usu.* considered admirable in most Western countries: *She is financially independent (of her family).* | *a woman of independent means* (=with her own income) 4 [no comp.] not connected with, controlled by, or influenced by others: *They are demanding an independent inquiry into the behaviour of the police at the demonstration.* | *Three independent studies in three different countries all arrived at the same conclusions.* — **ly** *adv* : *Charles Darwin and Alfred Russel Wallace discovered evolution independently (of each other).*

**In-de-pen-dent** *n* (sometimes not cap.) a person who does not always support the same political party

**Independent, The** a national daily newspaper in Britain. It is a QUALITY PAPER. — see also extra information on page 896

**independent clause** /,ɪn'pendənt/ also **main clause** — *n* *tech* (in grammar) a CLAUSE which can make a sentence by itself. It may have one or more DEPENDENT CLAUSES as parts of it or joined to it: *In the sentence "She decided to leave because the film was bad", "She decided to leave" is an independent clause.*

**Independent on Sun-day** /,ɪn'pendənt/ [the] a serious British newspaper which is printed and sold every Sunday — see also extra information on page 896

**independent school** /,ɪn'pendənt/ *n* BrE (in Britain) a private school which does not receive money from the government. Only a MINORITY of children go to independent schools but some of these, esp. the PUBLIC SCHOOLS, are considered very important and influential.

**in-depth** /'ɪndɪpθ/ *adj* [A] thorough and giving careful attention to detail: *an in-depth study*

**in-de-scri-ba-ble** /,ɪndɪ'skraɪbəbəl/ *adj* impossible to describe, either because extremely good or extremely bad, or because description is too difficult to attempt — **bly** *adv* : *indescribably delicious/awful*

**in-de-struc-ti-ble** /,ɪndɪ'strʌktɪbəl/ *adj* too strong to be destroyed — **bly** *adv* — **bility** /,ɪndɪ'strʌktɪ'bɪlɪti/ *n* [U]

**in-de-ter-mi-na-ble** /,ɪndɪ'tɜ:mɪnəbəl/ — 3:r- *adj* impossible to decide or fix: *The exact position of those particles is indeterminate by any method now available.* — **bly** *adv*

**in-de-ter-mi-nate** /,ɪndɪ'tɜ:mɪnɪt/ — 3:r- *adj* not clearly seen as, or not fixed as, one thing or another: *Our holiday plans are still at an indeterminate stage.* — **nacy** *n* [U]

**in-dex**<sup>1</sup> /'ɪndeks/ *n* 1 (*pl. indexes*) a an alphabetical list at the back of a book, of names, subjects, etc., mentioned in it and the pages where they can be found **b** also **card index** BrE || **card catalog** AmE — a similar alphabetical list, e.g. of books and writers that can be found in a library, written on separate cards (**index cards**) 2 (*pl. indices or indexes*) *fml* a sign by which something can be judged or measured: *This local election will provide*



a useful index of the national political mood. —compare INDICATION **3** (pl. **indices** or **indexes**) the system of numbers by which prices, costs, etc., can be compared to a former level, usu. fixed at 100: *An index-linked pension goes up when the cost of living does.* —see also DOW JONES, FT INDEX

**index**<sup>2</sup> *v* [I;T] to prepare an index (for) —~er *n*

**in-dex-a-tion** /,ɪndɛks'ɪʃən/ *n* [U] the putting of something on an INDEX (3), esp. an arrangement by which if one thing, such as the cost of living, rises or falls, then so does another, such as wages, by a similar amount

**index fin-ger** /'ɪ... ɪ.../ also **forefinger**— *n* the finger next to the thumb —see picture at HAND

**index fund** /'ɪ... ɪ.../ *n* a fund in which money is invested (INVEST) and the value of the SHARES rises and falls according to the rise and fall in the STOCK MARKET

**index-linked gilts** /'ɪ... ɪ.../ *n* [P] (in Britain) a type of government STOCK<sup>1</sup>(3) where the value and interest change as RETAIL prices change

**in-di-a** /'ɪndiə/ a large country in S Asia; capital New Delhi; population 811,817,000 (1989). The official languages are Hindi and English and most people are Hindu by religion.

**in-di-an** /'ɪndiən/ *n* **1** a person who comes from or whose parents come from India **2** NATIVE AMERICAN —see colour picture on page 358 —**Indian** *adj*

**in-di-an-a** /,ɪndi'ænə/ *written abbrev.* IN— a state in the US, in the Midwest, where farming is important —see colour map on pages 1374–5

**in-di-a-nap-o-lis** /,ɪndi'ænəpəlɪs/ the capital city of the state of Indiana in the US. An important car race called the **Indianapolis 500** is held there each year. —see colour map on pages 1374–5

**Indian corn** /'ɪ... ɪ.../ *n* [U] *old-fash esp. AmE* for MAIZE

**Indian file** /'ɪ... ɪ.../ *adv, n infml* SINGLE FILE; used mainly to children

**Indian giv-er** /'ɪ... ɪ.../ *n AmE infml derog* a person who gives a gift and then takes it back. The expression came out of a misunderstanding of Native American customs and is not used much any more as it is considered offensive to Native Americans.

**Indian Guide** /'ɪ... ɪ.../ also **Y-Indian Guide** *fml*— *n* a member of a club for young boys and their fathers run by the YMCA in the US. The YWCA runs a similar programme for young girls and their mothers called **Indian Maidens**.

**Indian ink** /'ɪ... ɪ.../ *BrE* || **India ink** /'ɪ... ɪ.../ *AmE*— *n* [U] dark black ink made from natural substances, such as that used for Chinese and Japanese writing with a brush

**Indian Mu-ti-ny** /'ɪ... ɪ.../ [*the*] the REVOLT of Indian soldiers in 1857 which led to a general protest and refusal to accept British rule. The British established their control again in 1858.

**Indian O-cean** /'ɪ... ɪ.../ [*the*] the third largest ocean in the world, E of Africa, S of Asia, W of Australia, and N of Antarctica

**Indian sum-mer** /'ɪ... ɪ.../ *n* **1** a period of warm weather in the late autumn **2** a pleasant or successful time happening near the end of a certain period, esp. towards the end of a person's life

**Indian Ter-ri-to-ry** /'ɪ... ɪ.../ *n* [U] an area west of the Mississippi River in the US, now mainly in Oklahoma, to which many Native Americans were forced to move in the mid-1800s. The land was later taken back by the government. —see also TRAIL OF TEARS

**Indian Wars** /'ɪ... ɪ.../ [*the*+P] the wars in the US between the white settlers and the Native Americans in the 18th and 19th centuries. These increased particularly after 1815 when the American government began moving Native Americans onto RESERVATIONS —see also WOUNDED KNEE

**india rub-ber** /'ɪ... ɪ.../ *n* [U] *tech or old-fash (sometimes cap.)* rubber, esp. as used for making toys or rubbing out pencil marks: *an india-rubber ball*

**in-dic** /'ɪndɪk/ *adj* of the Sanskrit language group and the modern languages related to it

**in-di-cate** /'ɪndɪkeɪt/ *v* **1** [T] to point to; draw attention to: *I asked him where my sister was and he indicated the shop opposite.* **2** [T] to show or make clear, esp. by means of

a sign: *He indicated his willingness with a nod of his head.* [+*(that)*] *The government has indicated that it intends to cut taxes.* | *Research indicates that men find it easier to give up smoking than women.* [+*wh-*] *She indicated where I should go.* **3** [I;T] *esp. BrE* || **signal** *AmE*— to show (the direction in which one is turning in a vehicle) with hand signals, lights, etc.: *He's indicating left.* | *Don't forget to indicate before turning.* **4** [T *often pass.*] *esp. med* to show a need for; suggest: *The change in his illness indicates the use of stronger drugs.* | *Stern measures may be indicated in a crisis.*

**in-di-ca-tion** /,ɪndɪ'keɪʃən/ *n* [C;U (of)] a sign or suggestion that indicates something: *There is every indication (=a very strong probability) of a change in the weather.* | *Can you give me any indication of how I did in the test?* [+*that*] *There are some indications that interest rates will soon fall.* —compare INDEX<sup>1</sup> (2)

**in-dic-a-tive** /ɪn'dɪkətɪv/ *adj* **1** [F+of] showing or suggesting: *His presence is indicative of his willingness to help.* **2** of or being the indicative: *an indicative verb (form)* —~ly *adv*

**indicative**<sup>2</sup> *n tech* (in grammar) a verb form, or a set of verb forms (a MOOD<sup>2</sup>), that describes an action or states a fact: *In the sentences "He comes here often" and "She passed the test" the verbs "comes" and "passed" are indicatives/are in the indicative.* —compare IMPERATIVE<sup>2</sup> (1), SUBJUNCTIVE

**in-di-ca-tor** /'ɪndɪ'keɪtə/ *n* **1** a needle or pointer on a machine showing a measurement, e.g. of temperature, pressure, amount of petrol, etc. **2** *esp. BrE* || **turn signal, signal** *AmE*— any of the lights on a car which flash to show which way it is turning —see picture at CAR **3** a fact, quality, or situation that indicates something: *All the main economic indicators suggest that trade is improving.*

**in-di-ces** /'ɪndɪ'sɪz/ *pl. of* INDEX<sup>1</sup> (2,3)

**in-dict** /ɪn'daɪt/ *v* [T (for)] to charge (someone) officially with an offence in law —~ment *n* [C;U]

**in-dict-a-ble** /ɪn'daɪtəbəl/ *adj law* for which one can be indicted: *an indictable offence*

**in-die** /'ɪndi/ *n* a small, independent company, esp. one which produces popular music recordings or television programmes

**indie mu-sic** /'ɪ... ɪ.../ *n* [U] popular music recordings produced by a small, independent company

**in-dif-fer-ent** /ɪn'dɪfərənt/ *adj* **1** [F (to, towards)] not interested in; not caring about or noticing: *I was so excited to see snow that I was indifferent to the cold.* | *His manner was cold and indifferent.* **2** not very good; MEDIOCRE: *Was it good, bad, or indifferent?* | *I'm an indifferent cook.* —~ly *adv* —~ence *n* [U (to, towards)] : *He treats her with complete indifference.*

**in-di-ge-nous** /ɪn'dɪdʒənəs/ *adj* [(to)] *fml or tech* originating, growing, or living naturally (in a particular place): *a plant indigenous to New Zealand* —~ly *adv*

**in-di-gent** /'ɪndɪdʒənt/ *adj fml* poor; lacking money and goods —~gence *n* [U]

**in-di-ges-ti-ble** /,ɪndɪ'dʒestɪbəl/ *adj* **1** (of food) which cannot be easily broken down in the stomach into substances to be used by the body **2** (of facts) which cannot easily be taken into the mind —~bly *adv* —~bility /,ɪndɪdʒestɪ'bɪlɪti/ *n* [U]

**in-di-ges-tion** /,ɪndɪ'dʒestʃən/ *n* [U] illness or pain caused by the stomach being unable to deal with the food which has been eaten —compare DIGESTION

**in-dig-nant** /ɪn'dɪgnənt/ *adj* [(at)] expressing or feeling surprised anger (because of something wrong or unjust) —~ly *adv*

**in-dig-na-tion** /,ɪndɪg'neɪʃən/ *n* [U (at)] feelings of surprised anger (because of something wrong or unjust): *I expressed my indignation at being unfairly dismissed.* | *righteous indignation*

**in-dig-ni-ty** /ɪn'dɪgnɪti/ *n* [C;U] a state or situation that makes one feel ashamed or feel loss of respect (DIGNITY): *I suffered the indignity of having to say I was sorry in front of all those people.*

**in-di-go** /'ɪndɪgəʊ/ *adj* dark blue-purple —**indigo** *n* [U]

**in-di-rect** /,ɪndɪ'rekt/ *adj* **1** not straight; not directly connected (to or with): *an indirect route to avoid the town centre* **2** a meaning something which is not directly



mentioned: *an indirect remark/answer | an indirect way of telling me to leave* **b** happening in addition to, or instead of, what is directly intended: *The accident was the indirect result of the bus being late* **3** (of a tax) not paid directly but through an additional price added to the cost of goods or services — *~ly adv* — *~ness n* [U]

**indirect free kick** /,ɪndɪˈfriː kɪk/ *n* (in football) a FREE KICK given to one team, from which a direct shot at GOAL cannot be made — compare DIRECT FREE KICK, PENALTY KICK

**indirect object** /,ɪndɪˈfriː ɔbjɪkt/ *n tech* the noun, noun phrase, or PRONOUN that is concerned in the result of an action shown by a TRANSITIVE verb; person or thing that the DIRECT OBJECT is given to, made for, done to, etc.: *"Him" is the indirect object in "I asked him a question", and "door" is the indirect object in "I gave the door a kick"*. — compare DIRECT OBJECT

**indirect speech** /,ɪndɪˈfriː ˈspiːtʃ/ also **reported speech** || *usu. indirect discourse* *AmE— n* [U] *tech* the style used in writing to report what someone said without repeating their actual words. This is done by changing the grammar and usu. using the form [+*(that)*], e.g. in a sentence like *Julia said (that) she didn't want to go* (her actual words were *"I don't want to go"*). — compare DIRECT SPEECH

**indirect tax-a-tion** /,ɪndɪˈfriː ˈtæksən/ *n* [U] tax not collected directly from the taxpayer, e.g. VAT which is paid by the producer of the goods, the cost being passed on to the customer in the form of a higher selling price

**in-dis-cer-ni-ble** /,ɪndɪˈsɜːnəbəl/ *adj* (often of something small or hidden by darkness) very difficult to see or notice: *a path almost indiscernible in the mist*

**in-dis-ci-pline** /ɪnˈdɪsɪplɪn/ *n* [U] a state of disorder because of lack of control; lack of DISCIPLINE

**in-dis-creet** /,ɪndɪˈskriːt/ *adj* not acting carefully and politely, esp. in the choice of what one says and does not say; not DISCREET — *~ly adv*

**in-dis-cre-tion** /,ɪndɪˈskrefən/ *n* **1** [U] the quality of being indiscreet; lack of DISCRETION **2** [C] **a** a careless impolite act **b euph** a piece of bad behaviour, such as small crimes and sexual experiences which are socially undesirable: *his youthful indiscretions*

**in-dis-crim-i-nate** /,ɪndɪˈskrɪmɪnət/ *adj* not showing the ability to make judgments (esp. moral judgments) or to see a difference in value between two people, groups, things, etc.: *the terrorists' indiscriminate violence against ordinary people* — *~ly adv*

**in-di-spen-sa-ble** /,ɪndɪˈspensəbəl/ *adj* [(to)] too important or too useful to be without; not DISPENSABLE: *She has become quite indispensable to the company.* | *A telephone is an indispensable piece of equipment for any office.* — *bly adv* — *bility* /,ɪndɪspensəˈbɪlɪti/ *n* [U]

**in-dis-posed** /,ɪndɪˈspəʊzd/ *adj* [F] *fml* **1** often *euph* not very well (in health): *temporarily indisposed* **2** [+to-v] not very willing; not DISPOSED: *indisposed to do it/to help*

**in-dis-po-si-tion** /ɪnˈdɪspəˈzɪʃən/ *n fml* **1** [C;U] a slight illness **2** [U+to-v] a certain degree of unwillingness: *Their indisposition to help makes everything more difficult.*

**in-dis-pu-ta-ble** /,ɪndɪˈspjuːtəbəl/ *adj* too certain to be questioned; beyond doubt: *an indisputable fact* — *bly adv* : *indisputably first-rate*

**in-dis-so-lu-ble** /,ɪndɪˈsɒljʊəbəl/ *adj fml* impossible to separate or break up; lasting — compare DISSOLVE (esp. 4), INSOLUBLE — *bly adv* : *indissolubly united* — *bility* /,ɪndɪsɒljʊəˈbɪlɪti/ *n* [U]

**in-dis-tinct** /,ɪndɪˈstɪŋkt/ *adj* not clear to the eye or ear or mind: *Those events are just an indistinct memory now.* | *an indistinct area in a photograph* — see also DISTINCT — *~ly adv* — *~ness n* [U]

**in-dis-tin-guish-a-ble** /,ɪndɪˈstɪŋgwɪʃəbəl/ *adj* [(from)] which cannot be seen or known to be different from something else or each other: *The twin sisters are almost indistinguishable.* | *The material is indistinguishable from real silk, but much cheaper.* — *bly adv*

**in-di-vid-u-al** /,ɪndɪˈvɪdʒuəl/ *adj* **1** [A] separate or particular; existing as an individual: *Each individual leaf on the tree is different.* | *The education department decides on general teaching policies, but the exact details are left to the individual schools.* | *individual portions* (=enough for one person) of cheese **2** [A] suitable for each person or thing, but not necessarily for any others: *Individual attention must be given to every fault in the material.* **3**

(of a manner, style, or way of doing things) particular to the person, thing, etc., concerned (and different from others); *DISTINCTIVE: She wears very individual clothes.* — see also INDIVIDUALLY

**individual**<sup>2</sup> *n* **1** **a** a single person or thing, considered separately from the class or group to which he, she, or it belongs: *The rights of the individual are perhaps the most important rights in a free society.* **b** a person whose ideas, behaviour, etc. may not be the same as other people's: *Do social pressures make it hard for us to become individuals?* **2** *infml* a person of a particular kind: *a bad-tempered individual*

**in-di-vid-u-al-is-m** /,ɪndɪˈvɪdʒuəlɪzəm/ *n* [U] the idea that the rights and freedom of the individual are the most important rights in a society, a central belief in most western countries, esp. the US

**in-di-vid-u-al-ist** /,ɪndɪˈvɪdʒuəlɪst/ *n, adj* (a person who is) noticeably independent and individual in opinions and/or style — *~ic* /,ɪndɪˈvɪdʒuəlɪstɪk/ *adj* — *~ically* /kli/ *adv*

**in-di-vid-u-al-i-ty** /,ɪndɪˈvɪdʒuəlɪti/ *n* [U] the character and qualities that make someone or something different from all others: *a dull woman, who lacks individuality*

**in-di-vid-u-al-ize** also *-ise* *BrE* /,ɪndɪˈvɪdʒuəlaɪz/ *v* [T] to cause to change according to the special needs or character of a person or thing; give individuality to — *-ization* /,ɪndɪˈvɪdʒuələɪˈzeɪʃən/ *n* [U]

**in-di-vid-u-al-ly** /,ɪndɪˈvɪdʒuəli/ *adv* **1** one by one; separately: *Individually, they're nice children but when they're in a group they can be quite troublesome.* **2** in an INDIVIDUAL<sup>1</sup> (3) way: *dressing very individually*

**Individual Re-tire-ment Ac-count** /,ɪndɪˈvɪdʒuəl ˈreɪtəmənt ˈaɪkəʊnt/ *n* see IRA<sup>2</sup>

**in-di-vis-i-ble** /,ɪndɪˈvɪzəbəl/ *adj* which cannot be divided or separated into parts — *bly adv* — *bility* /,ɪndɪˈvɪzəˈbɪlɪti/ *n* [U]

**Indo-** see WORD FORMATION

**in-do-chi-na** /,ɪndəʊˈtʃaɪnə/ the name given to SE Asia by Europeans during the 19th century. Indochina included ~Vietnam, Kampuchea, Burma, Thailand, Malaysia, and Laos.

**in-doc-tri-nate** /ɪnˈdɒktrɪneɪt/ *v* [T (with)] *usu. derog* to train (someone) to accept a set of (esp. political) ideas without questioning them: *indoctrinated with mindless anti-communism* — **-nation** /ɪnˈdɒktrɪˈneɪʃən/ *n* [U]

**Indo-Eu-ro-pe-an** /,ɪndəʊˈrɒpiən/ *adj* **1** of or being a group of languages that includes most of those spoken in Europe (and now spread to America and parts of Africa), Iran, and India: *English is an Indo-European language.* **2** of or being a member of a group which speaks any of these languages

**in-do-lent** /ˈɪndələnt/ *adj fml* lazy; disliking effort or activity — *~ly adv* — *-lence n* [U]

**in-dom-i-ta-ble** /ɪnˈdɒmɪtəbəl/ *adj* too strong and brave to be discouraged: *an indomitable spirit in the face of adversity* — *bly adv*

**in-do-ne-si-a** /,ɪndəʊˈniːziə, -ˈniːzə/ *n* a country in SE Asia consisting of more than 3000 islands including Java, Sumatra, Borneo and Bali; capital Jakarta; population 179,136,000 (1989)

**in-do-ne-sian** /,ɪndəʊˈniːzən/ *adj* of Indonesia, its peoples, or their official national language

**in-door** /ˈɪndɔːr/ *adj* [A] existing, happening, done, or used inside a building: *indoor sports | indoor clothes | an indoor swimming pool* — opposite **outdoor**

**in-doors** /,ɪnˈdɔːz/ *adv* **1** into or inside a building: *We went indoors.* | *We stayed indoors.* — opposite **outdoors** **2** 'er indoors *BrE infml* humor one's wife: *I wanted to spend Sunday fishing, but 'er indoors wouldn't wear it!* (=did not allow me to)

**in-dorse** /ɪnˈdɔːs/ *v* [T] to ENDORSE

**in-du-bi-ta-ble** /ɪnˈdjuːbɪtəbəl/ *adj fml* which cannot be doubted; unquestionable — *bly adv*

**in-du-ce** /ɪnˈdjuːs/ *v* [T] **1** [+obj+to-v] *fml* to lead (someone) to do something, often by persuading: *Nothing could induce her to be disloyal to him.* **2** [often pass.] **a** to cause (LABOUR<sup>1</sup> (3)) to begin by medical means **b** to cause (a baby) to be born, or (a mother) to give birth, by



medical means: *She had to be induced because the baby was four weeks late.* 3 *fml* to cause or produce: *The medicine may induce drowsiness.*

**in-duce-ment** /ɪn'dʒuzmənt/ || ɪn'dʌks-/ *n* [C;U] (something which provides) encouragement to do something: [+to-v] *They offered her a share in the business as an inducement to stay.*

**in-duct** /ɪn'dʌkt/ *v* [T (into) often pass.] 1 to introduce (someone, esp. a priest) into an official position in a special ceremony 2 *esp. AmE* to introduce (someone) officially into a group or organization, esp. into the army

**in-duct-ee** /ɪndʌk'tiː/ *n* *AmE* for CONSCRIPT<sup>2</sup>

**in-duc-tion** /ɪn'dʌkʃən/ *n* 1 [U (into)] the act of inducting 2 [U] the act of inducing: *the induction of labour after a long pregnancy* 3 [C;U] a ceremony in which a person is inducted into a position or organization 4 [C;U] (an) introduction into a new job, company, etc.: *an induction course* 5 [U] *tech* the production of electricity in one object by another which already has electrical (or MAGNETIC) power 6 [C;U] (an example or result of) a process of reasoning using known facts to produce general rules or principles —compare DEDUCTION

**in-duc-tive** /ɪn'dʌktɪv/ *adj* using INDUCTION (6); reasoning from known facts to produce general principles: *inductive reasoning* —compare DEDUCTIVE —~ly *adv*

**in-due** /ɪn'djuː/ || ɪn'duː/ *v*

*indue* sbdy. with sthg. *phr v* [T] *AmE* for ENDUE with

**in-dulge** /ɪn'dʌldʒ/ *v* 1 [T] to allow (oneself or someone else) to have or do what they want, esp. habitually: *They may spoil their grandchildren by indulging them too much.* 2 [T] to let oneself or someone else have (their wish to do or have something, etc.): *They indulge my every whim.* | *to indulge a love of expensive wines* 3 [I (in)] *infrm* to allow oneself to have or do something that one enjoys, esp. something that is considered rather bad or harmful: *I wouldn't say he's a heavy drinker but he tends to indulge (=drink too much) at parties.* | *I occasionally indulge in a big fat cigar.*

**in-dul-gence** /ɪn'dʌldʒəns/ *n* 1 [U (to, towards)] the habit of allowing someone to do or have what they want —see also SELF-INDULGENCE 2 [U] *infrm* the habit or activity of indulging in something, esp. too much food or alcohol 3 [C] something in which one indulges: *Sweets are/smoking is my only indulgence.* 4 [C;U] (in the Roman Catholic Church) freedom from punishment by God for wrong-doing, given by a priest —**gent** *adj*: *indulgent grandparents* | *indulgent to their grandchildren* —**gently** *adv*

**in-dus-tri-al** /ɪn'dʌstriəl/ *adj* 1 of industry and the people who work in it: *industrial unrest/democracy/output* | **Industrial relations** *concerns the relationship between the management and the workers in an industry.* 2 having highly developed industries: *an industrial nation* —compare INDUSTRIOUS —~ly *adv*: *an industrially developed country*

**industrial ac-tion** /ɪndʌstriəl'ækʃən/ *n* [U] *esp. BrE* action by workers (such as a STRIKE or a WORK-TO-RULE) intended to put pressure on employers to agree to the workers' demands

**industrial ar-cha-e-ol-o-gy** /ɪndʌstriəl'ærʃəloʊdʒi/ *n* [U] the study of the factories, machinery, and products of earlier stages of the INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION

**industrial art** /ɪndʌstriəl'ɑːt/ also **shop class**, **shop** *n* [U] *AmE* a subject taught in school on how to use tools and machinery: *Industrial Arts classes offered this semester are Automotive Repair, Printing, Woodworking, and Electronics.*

**industrial dis-pute** /ɪndʌstriəl'dɪspuːt/ *n* a disagreement between an employer or the management of a business or industry and the people working there, who are usu. represented by a TRADE UNION. If agreement cannot be reached, a trade union may instruct its members to WORK TO RULE, refuse OVERTIME or go on STRIKE. In Britain, if an industrial dispute continues for a long time and agreement cannot be reached, the two sides may go to ACAS, an independent body which tries to find agreement in industrial disputes. In the US, such a dispute may go to an arbitrator (ARBITRATE) who has been agreed upon by both sides.

**industrial es-pi-o-nage** /ɪndʌstriəl'espɪənɪdʒ/ *n* [U] the action of a business or industry in trying to find out the secrets of another, usu. in order to gain an advantage

**industrial es-tate** /ɪndʌstriəl'esiːt/ *BrE* || **industrial park** /ɪndʌstriəl'pɑːk/ *AmE* — *n* a piece of land, often on the edge of a city, with buildings on it, planned as a place for small factories and businesses

**in-dus-tri-al-is-m** /ɪn'dʌstriəlɪzəm/ *n* [U] the system by which a society gains its wealth through industries and machinery

**in-dus-tri-al-ist** /ɪn'dʌstriəlɪst/ *n* the owner or manager of a factory, industrial company, etc.

**in-dus-tri-al-ize** also **-ise** *BrE* /ɪn'dʌstriəlaɪz/ *v* [I;T] to (cause to) become industrially developed: *a meeting of finance ministers from the major industrialized countries* —**-ization** /ɪn,dʌstriələɪ'zeɪʃən/ || -lɪ-/ *n* [U]

**industrial re-la-tions** /ɪndʌstriəl'reɪlɪʒən/ *n* [P] the (good or bad) relationship between an employer or the management of a business or industry and the people working there who are usu. represented by a TRADE UNION

**industrial rev-o-lu-tion** /ɪndʌstriəl'revələʃən/ *n* (often caps.) a period of time when machines are invented and factories set up, and the changes which take place during this time (as in Britain around 1750–1850): *Will computers and automation bring about a new Industrial Revolution?*

**industrial tri-bu-nal** /ɪndʌstriəl'tribjuːnəl/ *n* in Britain, an official organization which makes decisions in INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES, usu. those involving an individual

**in-dus-tri-ous** /ɪn'dʌstriəs/ *adj* hard-working; DILIGENT —compare INDUSTRIAL —~ly *adv* —~ness *n* [U]

**in-dus-try** /ɪndəstri/ *n* 1 [U] the production of goods for sale, esp. in factories, or of materials that can be used in the production of goods: *a decline in manufacturing industry* 2 [U] the people and organizations that work in industry: *Are the government's policies helpful to industry?* | *an agreement that will be welcomed by both sides of industry* (=by employers and workers) 3 [C] a particular branch of industry or trade, usu. employing large numbers of people and using machinery and/or modern methods: *the steel/food/aerospace/clothing industry* | *The tourist trade has become a real industry.* | (fig. derog) *yet another book from the Shakespeare industry* 4 [U] continual hard work; industriousness: *Success comes with industry.* —see also HEAVY INDUSTRY, SUNRISE INDUSTRY

**i-ne-bri-ate** /ɪ'niːbriət/ *v* [T usu. pass.] *fml* or *pomp* to make drunk: *They were totally inebriated by the end of the party.* —**inebriate** /-bri-ʒt, -briət/ *n* —**-ation** /ɪ,niːbri'eɪʃən/ *n* [U]

**in-ed-i-ble** /ɪn'edʒəbəl/ *adj* not suitable for eating —**bly** *adv* —**-bility** /ɪn,edʒə'bɪlɪti/ *n* [U]

**in-ed-u-ca-ble** /ɪn'edʒəkəbəl/ || -dʒə-/ *adj* impossible to educate esp. because of weakness of mind —**bly** *adv* —**-bility** /ɪn,edʒəkə'bɪlɪti/ || -dʒə-/ *n* [U]

**in-ef-fa-ble** /ɪn'efəbəl/ *adj* *fml* 1 too wonderful to be described: *ineffable joy* 2 (esp. of the name of God in some religions) not to be spoken aloud: *the ineffable name* —**bly** *adv* —**-bility** /ɪn,efə'bɪlɪti/ *n* [U]

**in-ef-fec-tive** /ɪn'ɛfektɪv/ *adj* not resulting in or able to produce good or intended effects: *In terms of improving the economic situation, this policy has been largely ineffective.* | *an ineffective manager* —~ly *adv* —~ness *n* [U]

**in-ef-fec-tu-al** /ɪn'ɛfektʃuəl/ *adj* not producing satisfactory or intended results or not able to get things done: *an ineffectual plan* | *He won't be able to deal with the situation; he's too ineffectual.* —~ly *adv*

**in-ef-fi-cient** /ɪn'ɛfɪʃənt/ *adj* not working or performing in a satisfactory way, esp. because of wastefulness or lack of ability and organization; not EFFICIENT: *an inefficient heating system* | *an inefficient secretary* —~ly *adv* —**-ciency** *n* [U]: *Due to the inefficiency of the postal system, her letters took two weeks to arrive.*

**in-el-e-gant** /ɪn'elɪɡənt/ *adj* lacking in grace or good taste; not ELEGANT: *an inelegant gesture* —~ly *adv* —**-gance** *n* [U]

**in-el-i-gi-ble** /ɪn'elɪdʒɪbəl/ *adj* [(for)] not suitable to be chosen or included; not ELIGIBLE: *ineligible for election because too young* [F+to-v] *He was ineligible to vote, because he didn't belong to the club.* —**-bility** /ɪn,elɪdʒɪ'bɪlɪti/ *n* [U]

**in-e-luc-ta-ble** /ɪnɪ'lʌktəbəl/ *adj* *lit* impossible to escape from; unavoidable —**bly** *adv*

**in-ept** /ɪ'nept/ *adj* 1 [(at)] not effective; CLUMSY: *I made a rather inept attempt to remedy the situation.* 2 foolishly unsuitable: *What an inept remark to make on such a*



*formal occasion.* —compare INAPT — *~ly adv* — *~itude, ~ness n* [U]

**in-equal-i-ty** /,ɪnɪ'kwɒlɪti/ -'kwa:z/ *n* [C *usu. pl.*; U] (a) lack of fairness or equality: *There are many inequalities in the law.* | *social inequality*

**in-eq-ui-ta-ble** /ɪn'ekwɪtəbəl/ *adj fml* not equally fair to everyone; unjust: *an inequitable distribution of the money* —*bly adv*

**in-eq-ui-ty** /ɪn'ekwɪti/ *n* [C; U] *fml* (an example of) injustice or unfairness

**in-e-rad-i-ca-ble** /,ɪnɪ'rædɪkəbəl/ *adj fml* which cannot be completely removed, esp. from a person's character: *an ineradicable flaw* —*bly adv*

**in-ert** /ɪ'nɜ:t/ -'zɜ:t/ *adj* **1** without the strength or power to move: *He lay completely inert on the floor and we feared he was dead.* **2 tech** not acting chemically when combined with other substances: *inert gases* —*~ly adv* — *~ness n* [U]

**in-er-tia** /ɪ'nɜ:ʃə/ -'zɜ:r/ *n* [U] **1** the force which keeps a thing in the position or state it is in until it is moved or stopped by another force: *A ball will keep rolling under its own inertia until friction stops it.* | (fig.) *The inertia of the parliamentary system ensures that such inequalities are never put right.* **2** the state of being powerless to move or too lazy to move: *a feeling of inertia on a hot summer day*

**inertia reel** /ɪ'ɪə.../ *n* a wound length, esp. of a SEAT BELT in a car, that will unwind if it is pulled steadily but sticks if it is pulled suddenly

**inertia sel-ling** /ɪ'ɪə.../ *n* [U] esp. BrE the selling of goods by sending them to people who have not asked for them and demanding payment if they are not returned

**in-es-ca-pa-ble** /,ɪnɪ'skeɪpəbəl/ *adj* impossible to avoid: *Your son was the only person there, so the inescapable inference is that he stole the money.* —*bly adv*

**in-es-sen-tial** /,ɪnɪ'senʃəl/ *adj* [(to)] not needed; unnecessary

**inessential** <sup>2</sup> *n* [often *pl.*] something that is not needed: *This report does not concern itself with inessentials; it gets directly to the main point.*

**in-es-ti-ma-ble** /ɪn'estɪməbəl/ *adj fml* apprec too great or excellent to be calculated: *Your advice has been of inestimable value to us.* —*bly adv*

**in-ev-i-ta-ble** /ɪ'nevɪtəbəl/ *adj* **1** which cannot be avoided or prevented from happening; certain to happen: *A confrontation was inevitable because they disliked each other so much.* | *They reached the inevitable conclusion that the money must have been stolen.* | *the inevitable consequences of his actions* | *Given the current financial situation, it was inevitable that the pound would be devalued.* **2** [A] *infml* which always happens or is always present: *The head teacher made his inevitable joke about the school food.* —*bly adv*: *He was, inevitably, upset by her departure, but he soon got over it.* —*bility* /ɪ'nevɪtə'bɪlɪti/ *n* [U]

**in-ex-act** /,ɪnɪg'zækt/ *adj* not exact: *Sociology is an inexact science.* —*~itude, ~ness n* [U]

**in-ex-cu-sa-ble** /,ɪnɪk'skjuzəbəl/ *adj* too bad to be excused: *inexcusable behaviour/lateness/rudeness* —*bly adv*

**in-ex-haus-ti-ble** /,ɪnɪg'zɔ:stɪbəl/ *adj* existing in such large amounts that it can never be finished or used up: *inexhaustible patience* | *an inexhaustible supply of funny stories* —*bly adv*

**in-ex-o-ra-ble** /ɪn'eksərəbəl/ *adj* **1** whose actions or effects cannot be changed or prevented by one's efforts: *the slow but inexorable workings of British justice* | *inexorable price rises* **2 fml** not able to be persuaded to act differently: *an inexorable opponent* —*bly adv*: *The runaway train bore down inexorably on the trapped rabbit.* —*bility* /ɪn'eksərə'bɪlɪti/ *n* [U]

**in-ex-pe-di-ent** /,ɪnɪk'spɪdiənt/ *adj fml* not useful, advisable, or convenient; not EXPEDIENT —*~ency, ~ence n* [U]

**in-ex-pen-sive** /,ɪnɪk'spensɪv/ *adj* often *euph* reasonable in price; not expensive —*~ly adv* — *~ness n* [U]

**in-ex-pe-ri-ence** /,ɪnɪk'spɪəriəns/ *n* [U] lack of experience

**in-ex-pe-ri-enced** /,ɪnɪk'spɪəriənst/ *adj* (of a person) lacking the knowledge which one gains by experiencing some activity or life generally: *a rather inexperienced young salesman*

**in-ex-pert** /ɪn'ekspɜ:t/ -'zɜ:t/ *adj* [(at, in)] not good at doing

something; unskilled: *his inexpert attempts to cook/to speak French* —*~ly adv* — *~ness n* [U]

**in-ex-plic-a-ble** /,ɪnɪk'splɪkəbəl/ -'eksplɪkəbəl, ,ɪnɪk'splɪk-/ *adj* too strange to be explained or understood: *the inexplicable disappearance of the woman, who was never seen again* —*bility* /,ɪnɪk'splɪkə'bɪlɪti/ *n* [U]

**in-ex-plic-a-bly** /,ɪnɪk'splɪkəbli/ *adv* **1** in an inexplicable way **2** it is an inexplicable fact (that): *Inexplicably, journalists failed to report the affair, and the scandal was hidden from the public for several weeks.*

**in-ex-pres-si-ble** /,ɪnɪk'spresɪbəl/ *adj fml* (of a feeling) too great or too strong to be expressed in words: *inexpressible joy/sorrow/relief* —*bly adv* —*bility* /,ɪnɪk'spresɪ'bɪlɪti/ *n* [U]

**in-ex-press-ive** /,ɪnɪk'spresɪv/ *adj* lacking expression or meaning: *an inexpressive face*

**in-ex-tin-guish-a-ble** /,ɪnɪk'stɪŋgwɪʃəbəl/ *adj fml* (of fire and feelings) which cannot be destroyed or put out: *inextinguishable hope* | (fig.) *the inextinguishable flame of liberty*

**in ex-tre-mis** /,ɪn ɪk'stri:mɪs/ *adv Lat fml* (as if) at the moment of death: *The government's incomes plan was saved in extremis (=when it was about to fail) by some last-minute concessions to the unions.*

**in-ex-tri-ca-ble** /ɪn'ekstri:kəbəl, ,ɪnɪk'stri-/ *adj fml* **1** from which it is impossible to get free: *inextricable financial troubles* **2** which cannot be untied or separated: *The history of scientific advance and the history of warfare are inextricable.* —*bly adv*: *The country's high birthrate and low life expectancy are inextricably linked.*

**in-fal-li-ble** /ɪn'fælɪbəl/ *adj* **1** never making mistakes or doing anything bad: *So what if I did get the answer wrong? I'm not infallible, you know!* | *an infallible memory* **2** (of a thing) always having the right effect: *an infallible remedy/cure* —*bly adv* —*bility* /ɪn'fælɪ'bɪlɪti/ *n* [U]: *Catholics are required to believe in the infallibility of the Pope.*

**in-fa-mous** /'ɪnfəməs/ *adj* **1** well known for being bad, esp. morally wicked: *an infamous criminal/traitor* | (fig.) *Steve's infamous for his practical jokes.* **2 fml** evil; wicked: *infamous behaviour* —see FAMOUS (USAGE)

**in-fa-my** /'ɪnfəmi/ *n fml* **1** [U] the quality of being infamous **2** [C *often pl.*] an infamous act

**in-fan-cy** /'ɪnfənsi/ *n* [S; U] **1** the period of being an infant; early childhood **2** a beginning or early period of existence: *The company is still only in its infancy.*

**in-fant** /'ɪnfənt/ *n* **1** a very young child, esp. one who has not learnt to speak or walk: *a high rate of infant mortality* —see CHILD (USAGE) **2** BrE a very young school-child, esp. below the age of eight: *Our little boy is in the infants' class.* | *an infant teacher*

**in-fan-ta** /ɪn'fæntə/ *n* (often *cap.*) the daughter of a Spanish or Portuguese king

**in-fan-ti-cide** /ɪn'fæntɪsaɪd/ *n* **1** [C; U] *fml* the crime of killing a child, esp. an infant. Infanticide is still practised in some societies where girl children are killed in countries where male children are considered more valuable. **2** [C] *tech* a person guilty of this crime

**in-fan-tile** /'ɪnfəntaɪl/ *adj usu. derog* like or typical of a small child; PUERILE: *infantile humour* | *His behaviour is appallingly infantile!* (=foolishly childlike)

**infantile pa-ral-y-sis** /ɪ'... 'ɪ.../ *n* [U] *old-fash* for POLIO

**infant mor-tal-i-ty rate** /ɪ'... 'ɪ.../ *n* (*abbrev. IMR*) the number of deaths of babies under one year old, expressed per 1000 babies born alive in a year. This figure is regarded as a measure of a country's wealth and social development.

**infant prod-i-gy** /ɪ'... 'ɪ.../ also *child prodigy* — *n* a (young) child with unusually great ability and understanding: *Mozart was an infant prodigy: he composed a symphony at the age of seven.*

**in-fan-try** /'ɪnfəntri/ *n* [(the) U + *sing. pl. v*] soldiers who fight on foot: *Our infantry was/were fighting bravely.* | *My son's in the infantry.* —compare CAVALRY

**in-fan-try-man** /'ɪnfəntrɪmən/ *n* -men /mən/ a soldier who fights on foot

**infant school** /ɪ'... / *n* (in Britain) a school for children aged 5 to 7 or 8 —compare ELEMENTARY SCHOOL; —see also PRIMARY SCHOOL and see extra information on page 408



**in-fat-u-at-ed** /ɪnˈfætʃuətɪd/ *adj* [(with)] *usu. derog* (of a person) filled with a strong, unreasonable, but *usu. not* long-lasting, feeling of love. Many people think of being infatuated as something experienced by young people, esp. TEENAGERS at school, sometimes with someone of the same sex: *She's really infatuated with that boy next door.* | (fig.) *He's infatuated with his own importance.*

**in-fat-u-a-tion** /ɪnˈfætʃuˈeɪʃən/ *n* [C;U (with)] a state or period of being infatuated: *It's only an infatuation; she'll get over it soon enough.*

**in-fect** /ɪnˈfekt/ *v* [T (with)] 1 (of disease) to get into the body of (someone), often through the air: *The open wound soon became infected.* | *Don't come near me if you've got a cold — I don't want to be infected.* 2 to make (air, food, etc.) impure by spreading disease into it; CONTAMINATE: *infected food* 3 to make (someone else) have feelings of the same type: *She infected the whole class with her enthusiasm.*

**in-fec-tion** /ɪnˈfekʃən/ *n* [C;U] the act or result of infecting, or a disease spread by infecting: *a lung/chest infection* | *Sterilize the needle to prevent infection* —compare CONTAGION

**in-fec-tious** /ɪnˈfekʃəs/ *adj* (of a disease) that can be passed from one person to another by infection, esp. in the air: *Colds are infectious.* | (fig.) *infectious laughter* —compare CONTAGIOUS — *~ly adv* *~ness n* [U]

**in-fer** /ɪnˈfɜːr/ *v* -rr- [T (from)] to form an opinion from or make a judgment based on (something); DEDUCE: *What can we infer from his refusal to see us?* [+that] *I infer from your letter that you have not yet made a decision.*

▷ USAGE Compare *infer* and *imply*. The speaker or writer *implies* something, and the listener or reader *infers* it. *His remarks implied* (=suggested indirectly) *that he hadn't enjoyed his holiday.* | *I inferred* (=understood) *from his remarks that he hadn't enjoyed his holiday.* ◁

**in-fer-ence** /ɪnˈfərəns/ *n* 1 [U] the act of inferring: *Our conclusions were arrived at by inference, not by direct evidence.* 2 [C] the judgment that one forms about the meaning of something done, said, etc.: *He never arrives on time; the inference is that he feels the meetings are useless.* —compare IMPLICATION

**in-fer-en-tial** /ɪnˈfərənʃəl/ *adj* which can be or has been inferred; not direct: *inferential proof* — *~ly adv*

**in-fe-ri-or** /ɪnˈfɪəriə/ *adj* [(to)] 1 not good or less good in quality or value: *His work is inferior to mine.* | *She's so clever, she makes me feel inferior.* | *an inferior mind* | *goods of inferior quality* 2 *fml* or *tech* lower in position: *an inferior court of law* —compare SUPERIOR; see MAJOR (USAGE) — *~ity* /ɪnˈfɪəriˈɒrɪti/ *n* [U]

**inferior** <sup>2</sup> *n* often *derog* a person of lower rank, esp. in a job; SUBORDINATE —compare SUPERIOR<sup>2</sup> (1)

**inferiority com-plex** /ɪnˈfɪəriˈɒrɪti/ *n* [(about)] a condition of the mind in which someone believes himself or herself to be much less important, clever, etc. than other people, sometimes resulting in avoiding other people or trying to attract attention —compare SUPERIORITY COMPLEX

**in-fer-nal** /ɪnˈfɜːnl/ *adj* 1 [A] *old-fash infml* (used esp. to express anger or annoyance) extremely unpleasant; terrible: *What an infernal racket/din!* | *an infernal nuisance* 2 [no comp.] *lit* of HELL: *the infernal powers* — *~ly adv* : *infernally noisy* | *an infernally long time*

**in-fer-no** /ɪnˈfɜːnə/ *n* -nos a place of very great heat and large uncontrollable flames: *The oilrig caught fire and quickly became a raging inferno.* —see also DANTE'S INFERNO

**in-fer-tile** /ɪnˈfɜːtaɪl/ *adj* 1 [no comp.] not able to produce young: *infertile eggs* 2 (of land) not able to grow plants

**in-fer-til-i-ty** /ɪnˈfɜːtɪlɪti/ *n* [U] the state of being infertile: *the infertility of the soil*

**in-fest** /ɪnˈfest/ *v* [T (with)] (of something harmful, dangerous, or unwanted) to be present (in a place) in large numbers or to a great degree: *Mice infested the old house.* | *It would be crazy to swim in these shark-infested waters.* — *~ation* /ɪnˈfesteɪʃən/ *n* [C;U] : *an infestation of lice/dry rot*

**in-fi-del** /ɪnˈfɪdəl/ *n* *old use derog* (used esp. in former times by Christians and Muslims of each other) someone who does not follow one's own religion; an unbeliever: *war against the infidels*

**in-fi-del-i-ty** /ɪnˈfɪdəlɪti/ *n* [C;U (to)] 1 (an example or act of) not being faithful 2 (an act of) sex with someone other than one's marriage partner —compare FIDELITY

**in-field** /ɪnˈfiːld/ *n* [the] 1 the part of a cricket field nearest to the player who hits the ball 2 the part of a BASEBALL field inside the four bases —see picture at BASEBALL 3 [+sing./pl. v] the players in this part of the field —compare OUTFIELD — *~er n*

**in-fight-ing** /ɪnˈfaɪtɪŋ/ *n* [U] competition and disagreement, often bitter, which goes on between close members of a group, e.g. partners in a company or members of a political party: *political infighting*

**in-fil-trate** /ɪnˈfɪltreɪt/ *v* [T (into)] to (cause to) go into (a place) or become part of (an organization), secretly or without being noticed, and *usu.* with an unfriendly purpose: *She claimed that Communist sympathizers had infiltrated our organization.* | *We infiltrated some of our troops into enemy territory.* — *~tration* /ɪnˈfɪltreɪʃən/ *n* [C;U] — *~trator* /ɪnˈfɪltreɪtə/ *n*

**in-fi-nite** <sup>1</sup> /ɪnˈfɪnɪt/ *adj* 1 without limits or end; not FINITE: *The universe is infinite.* | *an infinite number of possibilities* 2 very great: *with infinite care/patience* | *This is an infinite improvement on your previous work.* | *My father has decreed, in his infinite wisdom* (=I completely disagree), *that all motorbikes are killers, so I can't buy one.* — *~ly adv* : *infinitely large/better*

**infinite** <sup>2</sup> [the] (often *cap.*) the highest power of the spirit; God

**in-fin-i-tes-i-mal** /ɪnˈfɪnɪtəsɪməl/ *adj* extremely small: *an infinitesimal amount* — *~ly adv*

**in-fin-i-tive** /ɪnˈfɪnɪtɪv/ *n* the form of a verb that is usually used with *to* and can follow a noun, adjective, or other verb (for example, *go in a desire to go*, *It is important to go*, and *I want to go*) and can sometimes be used without *to* when following certain verbs (for example, *go in You may go* and *I saw her go*) —see TO<sup>3</sup> (USAGE); see also SPLIT INFINITIVE — **infinitive** *adj* : *an infinitive construction*

**in-fin-i-tude** /ɪnˈfɪnɪtjuːd/ *n* [S;U] *fml* largeness; wide-ness; lack of limits: *the vast infinitude of space*

**in-fin-i-ty** /ɪnˈfɪnɪti/ *n* [U] 1 a point at an infinite distance away: *The universe stretches out to infinity.* | *Parallel lines meet at infinity.* 2 a number too large to be calculated

**in-firm** /ɪnˈfɜːm/ *adj* weak in body or mind, esp. from age: *old and infirm*

**in-fir-ma-ry** /ɪnˈfɜːməri/ *n* 1 a hospital 2 a room or other place where people who are ill are given care and treatment: *the school infirmary*

**in-fir-mi-ty** /ɪnˈfɜːmɪti/ *n* *fml* 1 [C *usu. pl.*; U] (a) weakness of body or mind: *the infirmities of old age* | *suffering from age and infirmity* 2 *infirmity of purpose* *lit* inability to decide

**in fla-gran-te de-lic-to** /ɪn fləˈgrænteɪ dɪˈlɪktəʊ/ *adv* *Lat*, often *humor* in an act of SEXUAL INTERCOURSE, esp. one with someone else's husband/wife

**in-flame** /ɪnˈfleɪm/ *v* [T (with)] to make (more) violent or angry: *His indiscreet comments only served to inflame the dispute.* | *inflamed with desire*

**in-flamed** /ɪnˈfleɪmd/ *adj* (of a part of the body) red and swollen because hurt or diseased: *an inflamed eye*

**in-flam-ma-ble** /ɪnˈflæməbəl/ *adj* 1 also **flammable** esp. *AmE* or *tech* — which can easily be set on fire and which burns quickly: *Clothes shouldn't be made of inflammable material.* | *Petrol is highly inflammable.* | (fig.) *The situation is highly inflammable.* —opposite **nonflammable**, **flameproof** 2 easily excited or made angry —compare INFLAMMATORY; see FLAMMABLE (USAGE)

**in-flam-ma-tion** /ɪnˈflæməɪʃən/ *n* [C;U] (a) swelling and soreness on or in the body, which is often red and hot to the touch: *an inflammation of the lungs* —see also INFLAMED

**in-flam-ma-to-ry** /ɪnˈflæmətəri/ *adj* likely to cause strong feelings or violence: *inflammatory remarks* —compare INFLAMMABLE; see also INFLAME

**in-fla-ta-ble** /ɪnˈfleɪtəbəl/ *adj* which must be inflated for use: *an inflatable raft/life jacket*

**in-fla-ta-bles** /ɪnˈfleɪtəbəlz/ *n* [P] *BrE* inflatable objects which children use in a swimming pool to help them float



**in-flate** /ɪnˈfleɪt/ *v fml* 1 [I;T] to (cause to) fill until swelled with air or gas; blow up: *She inflated the balloon.* | *Pull this cord to inflate the life jacket.* 2 [T] to raise (a price) by INFLATION (2)

**in-flat-ed** /ɪnˈfleɪtɪd/ *adj* 1 (of prices) risen or put up to a high level: *charging ridiculously inflated prices for their goods* 2 *derog* increased to a level (e.g. of importance or value) that is falsely high: *an inflated opinion of himself* | *artificially inflated statistics* 3 blown up (e.g. with air): *an inflated lung/balloon*— opposite **deflated**

**in-fla-tion** /ɪnˈfleɪʃən/ *n* [U] 1 (the rate of) a continuing rise in prices: *The government is determined to bring down inflation (to below 5%).* | *The annual rate of inflation was 10%.* | *an inflation-proof pension* (=which rises in value at the rate of inflation)—compare **DEFLATION**, **REFLATION** 2 the act of inflating or state of being inflated

**in-fla-tion-a-ry** /ɪnˈfleɪʃənəri/—*ʃənəri* *adj* of or likely to cause inflation: *inflationary pressures in the economy* | *inflationary wage increases*

**inflationary spi-ral** /ˌɪnˌfleɪʃənɪzəm/ *n* the continuing rise in wages and prices which happens because an increase in wages tends to produce an increase in prices, so that wages have to be increased again: *The economy is caught in an inflationary spiral.*

**in-fla-tion-is-m** /ɪnˈfleɪʃənɪzəm/ *n* [U] the idea of causing economic inflation by increasing the supply of money in a country (=CURRENCY)

**in-flect** /ɪnˈflekt/ *v* [I;T] *esp. tech* 1 to change or cause (a word) to change in form according to its meaning or use: *The word “child” inflects/is inflected in the plural by adding “-ren” to it.* | *German is a highly inflected language.*—compare **CONJUGATE** (1,2), **DECLINE** (4) 2 to change or cause (the voice) to change, esp. in level, according to the needs of expression

**in-flec-tion** also **inflexion** *BrE* /ɪnˈflekʃən/ *n esp. tech* 1 [U] the process or result of inflecting; the change in the form of a word to show difference in its meaning or use 2 [C] a word part which is added to another word when inflecting it: *In “largest”, “-est” is the inflection meaning “most”.* 3 [C] a movement up or down of the voice: *A sentence that asks a question usually ends on a rising inflection.*—compare **INTONATION**—~*al adj*: *an inflectional suffix*

**in-flex-i-ble** /ɪnˈfleksɪbəl/ *adj* 1 difficult or impossible to bend; stiff and firm: *The new plastic is completely inflexible.* 2 *usu. derog* (of a person) refusing to be turned away from one's purpose, esp. in an unreasonable way; **UNBENDING**: *You'll never get him to change his mind; he's so inflexible.* 3 (of an idea, decision, etc.) which cannot be changed, even when change is desirable: *His attitude has become even more rigid and inflexible than it was before.*—*bly adv*—*bility* /ɪnˌfleksɪˈbɪlɪti/ *n* [U]: *The inflexibility of the country's labour market seriously impedes its economic recovery.*

**in-flict** /ɪnˈflɪkt/ *v* [T (on, upon)] to force (something or someone unpleasant or unwanted) on someone: *The judge inflicted the severest possible penalty.* | *Don't inflict your ridiculous ideas on me!* | *Mary has inflicted the children on her mother for the weekend.*—**infliction** /-ˈflɪkʃən/ *n* [C;U (on, upon)]: *He seems to delight in the infliction of pain.* (=causing pain to people)

**in-flight** /ˌɪnˌflaɪt/ *adj* [A] happening or provided during a trip by plane: *in-flight meals/entertainment*

**in-flow** /ˌɪnˌfləʊ/ also **influx**—*n* [C;U] the action or process of flowing in or something which does: *the inflow of money to the banks* | *a big inflow of refugees*

**in-flu-ence** /ˌɪnˌfluəns/ *n* [C;U] 1 [(over, on, upon, with)] (the power to have) an effect on someone or something without the use of direct force or command: *He promised to use his influence with the chairman to get me the job.* | *The stars' influence on people's lives has not been proved.* | *She's a woman of some influence in government circles.* | *They had come under the influence of a strange religious sect.* | *Listening to the music had a calming influence on her.* 2 [(for, on)] a person or thing that has this power: *I wish she wouldn't go around with that boy; he's such a bad influence (on her).* | *Gospel music and blues are the main influences on his music.* 3 **under the influence** (of alcohol) *infml* drunk: *He was fined for driving under the influence.*

**influence**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T] to have an effect on (a person or their

behaviour), esp. in causing or persuading someone to act in a particular way but without the use of direct force or command; **AFFECT**<sup>2</sup>: *Don't let me influence your decision.* | *Her writing has obviously been influenced by Virginia Woolf.* [+obj+to-v] *What were the factors that influenced you to take the job?*

**in-flu-en-tial** /ˌɪnfluˈenʃəl/ *adj* having great influence: *an influential writer/newspaper/speech*—~*ly adv*

**in-flu-en-za** /ˌɪnfluˈenzə/ *n* [U] *fml* for **FLU**

**in-flux** /ˈɪnflʌks/ *n* 1 [C (of) *usu. sing.*] the esp. sudden arrival of large numbers or quantities: *a sudden influx of imported electronic goods onto the market* | *a great influx of tourists into the town in the summer months* 2 [C;U] an **INFLOW**

**in-fo** /ˈɪnfəʊ/ *n* [U] *infml* information

**in-form** /ɪnˈfɔ:m/—*ɔ:rm* *v* [T (of, about)] *usu. fml* to give information or knowledge to; tell: *I wasn't informed of the decision until too late.* | *Why wasn't I informed?* [+obj+(that)] *I informed him that I would not be able to attend.* [+obj+wh-] *Could you please inform me how to go about contacting a lawyer?*—see **SAY**<sup>1</sup> (**USAGE**)

**inform against/on sbdy.** *phr v* [T] *sometimes derog* to give the police, or someone in a position of power, information about the guilt of (someone): *I'm amazed to hear that she was the one who informed on her husband.*

**in-for-mal** /ɪnˈfɔ:məl/—*ɔ:r-* *adj* 1 not formal; not following official or established rules, methods, etc.: *an informal agreement/meeting* | *We have made preliminary, informal approaches to the committee.* | *informal talks between the two leaders* 2 a (of clothes, behaviour, etc.) suitable for ordinary everyday situations but not for official occasions b *esp. tech* (of words or a style of writing or speaking) suitable for ordinary conversation, e.g. with friends or people one works with, but not for serious writing or official occasions. Informal words or phrases are marked *infml* in this dictionary: “Info” is an informal word for “information”.—~*ly adv*: *I told him informally that he'd got the job, but that official confirmation wouldn't come for a few days.*—~*ity* /ˌɪnfɔ:ˈmælɪti/—*ɔ:r-* *n* [U]

**in-for-mant** /ɪnˈfɔ:mənt/—*ɔ:r-* *n fml* 1 someone who gives information, esp. to the police, a government, etc.: *The FBI were warned about the spy ring by a confidential informant.* 2 someone who gives information, esp. someone who gives details of their language, social customs, etc., to a person who is studying them—compare **INFORMER**

**in-for-ma-tion** /ˌɪnfəˈmeɪʃən/—*fər-* *n* [U (about, on)] 1 (something which gives) knowledge in the form of facts, news, etc.: *Could you give me some information about flights to Cairo, please?* | *an interesting piece of information* | *This book gives all sorts of useful information on how to repair cars.* | *Acting on information received, the police have arrested two suspects.* [+that] *We have received information that they may have left the country.* | (*fml*) *According to my information* (=I have been told), *he is no longer here.* | *classified information* (=officially secret information) 2 *AmE* (often *cap.*) the telephone service which provides telephone numbers to people who ask for them: *Her number's not in the book yet but you can get it from information.* | *How do you get information for Los Angeles?* **DIRECTORY ENQUIRIES**—~*ional adj*

**information cen-tre** /ˌɪnfəˈmeɪʃən/—*ɪn-* *n* a place, often in somewhere such as a big **EXHIBITION**, a hospital, a place which tourists visit, or a **NATURE RESERVE**, where people can get information: *I wonder if there's an information centre anywhere?* | *For further information, write to the National Building Information Centre, 138 Birchanger Street...*

**information re-triev-al** /ˌɪnfəˈmeɪʃən/—*ɪn-* *n* [U] *tech* the finding of stored information when it is needed, esp. from a computer

**information sci-ence** /ˌɪnfəˈmeɪʃən/—*ɪn-* *n* [U] the science of collecting, arranging, storing, retrieving (**RETRIEVE**), and sending out information

**information tech-nol-o-gy** /ˌɪnfəˈmeɪʃən/—*ɪn-* also **IT abbrev.**—*n* [U] the science or practice of collecting, storing, using, and sending out information by means of computer systems and **TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

**information theo-ry** /ˌɪnfəˈmeɪʃən/—*ɪn-* *n* [U] the mathematical principles that deal with information and the sending of information between humans and machines



- in-for-ma-tive** /ɪnˈfɔːmətɪv||-ɔːr/ *adj* providing useful facts or ideas: *an informative television documentary* — opposite **uninformative** — **~ly adv**
- in-formed** /ɪnˈfɔːmd||-ɔːr/ *adj* **1** [(about, on)] having or showing knowledge; having information: *well-informed* | *badly informed* | *Please keep me informed of any developments in the situation.* | *Informed sources/observers predict serious repercussions on the government.* **2** using one's knowledge of a situation: *I don't know exactly how many votes he will get, but I can make an informed guess.*
- informed o-pin-ion** /ɪnˈfɔːmɪd||-ɔːr/ *n* [U] *esp. BrE* those people who are in a position to know: *Informed opinion has it that/says she's coming today.*
- in-form-er** /ɪnˈfɔːməɹ||-ɔːr/ *n* sometimes *derog* a person who informs against someone else, *esp.* to the police in return for money —compare **INFORMANT**
- in-frac-tion** /ɪnˈfrækʃən/ *n* [C;U] (of) *fml* (an example of) the breaking of a rule or law: *Any infraction of the regulations will be punished.*
- in-fra dig** /ɪnfrəˈdɪɡ/ *adj* [F] *infml, esp. BrE* below one's standard of social or moral behaviour: *It's a bit infra dig for him to wear brown shoes on such a formal occasion.*
- in-fra-red** /ɪnfrəˈred/ *adj* of or being RAYS of light of long WAVELENGTH that cannot be seen but give heat: *an infrared grill/lamp* | *infrared radiation* —compare **ULTRAVIOLET**
- in-fra-struc-ture** /ɪnfrəˈstrʌktʃəɹ/ *n* the system or structures which are necessary for the operation of a country or an organization: *Vast sums are needed to maintain the infrastructure (=water/power/road systems)* | *a country's economic infrastructure (=its banks and other organizations which handle and control its money)*
- in-fre-quent** /ɪnˈfriːkwənt/ *adj fml* not (happening) often; rare: *infrequent visits* | *an infrequent visitor* — **~ly adv** — **~quency n** [U]
- in-fringe** /ɪnˈfrɪndʒ/ *v* [I (upon, on); T] *fml* to go against (a law, etc.) or take over (the right of another person): *to infringe a copyright/a patent* | *He considers that the school is infringing (upon) his rights as a parent by punishing his son in that way.* | *to infringe upon a nation's fishing rights* — **~ment n** [C;U] : *an infringement of the law*
- in-fu-ri-ate** /ɪnˈfjuəriət/ *v* [T] to make (someone) extremely angry: *His casual attitude infuriates me!* | *infuriating delays* —see **ANNOY (USAGE)** — **~atingly adv**
- in-fuse** /ɪnˈfjuːz/ *v* **1** [T] to fill (someone) with (a quality): [+obj+with] *His speech infused the men with a desire to win.* [+obj+into] *His speech infused a desire to win into the men.* **2** [I;T] to stay or cause (a substance such as tea) to stay in hot water so as to give the liquid the taste of the substance: *Let the tea infuse for a few minutes.*
- in-fu-sion** /ɪnˈfjuːzən/ *n* **1** [U] the act of infusing **2** [C] a liquid made by infusing, often for medical use: *The old woman recommended an infusion of special herbs for my cold.* **3** [C;U (into)] (an example of) the act of mixing or filling with something new: *an infusion of new ideas into the department*
- Inge** /ɪŋ/, **Wil-liam Ralph** /ˈwɪljəm rælf/ (1860–1954) an English writer and Dean of St Paul's Cathedral, known as the “Gloomy Dean” because of the unhappy and hopeless nature of his **SERMONS** (=talks in church)
- in-ge-ni-ous** /ɪnˈdʒɪniəs/ *adj usu. apprec* showing cleverness at making or inventing things: *What an ingenious gadget!* | *an ingenious person/idea/excuse* —compare **INGENUOUS**; see also **GENIUS** — **~ly adv**
- in-ge-nue**, **-gé-** /ˈæŋʒeɪnjuː||ˈændʒənuː/ *n* *Fr* a young inexperienced girl, *esp.* in plays and films: *With her innocent looks, she always gets the ingenue roles.*
- in-ge-nu-i-ty** /ɪndʒəˈnjuːəti||-ˈnuː-/ *n* [U] skill and cleverness in making, inventing, or arranging things: *It took some ingenuity to squeeze all the furniture into the little room.*
- in-gen-u-ous** /ɪnˈdʒenjuəs/ *adj* often *derog* (of a person or their behaviour) simple, direct, and inexperienced; **NAIVE**: *Only the most ingenuous person would believe such a feeble excuse.* | *an ingenuous smile* —compare **INGENIOUS**; see also **DISINGENUOUS** — **~ly adv** — **~ness n** [U]
- in-gest** /ɪnˈdʒest/ *v* [T] *tech* to take (food) into the stomach —compare **DIGEST** — **~ion** /ɪnˈdʒestʃən/ *n* [U]
- in-gle-nook** /ɪŋɡəlnoʊk/ *n* (a seat in) a partly enclosed space near a large open fireplace; **CHIMNEY CORNER**
- in-glo-ri-ous** /ɪnˈglɔːriəs/ *adj lit* **1** shameful; bringing dishonour: *an inglorious defeat* **2** old use not famous; unknown: “Some mute inglorious Milton here may rest.” (Gray's *Elegy*) — **~ly adv**
- in-got** /ˈɪŋɡət/ *n* a lump of metal in a regular shape, often brick-shaped: *gold ingots*
- in-grained** /ɪnˈgreɪnd/ *adj* fixed firmly and deeply into the surface or inside, so that it is difficult to remove or destroy: *ingrained dirt* | (fig.) *ingrained habits/prejudices* | (fig.) *a deeply ingrained dislike of small children*
- In-grams** /ˈɪŋɡrəmz/, **Richard** (1937– ) a British writer who was the **EDITOR** of the British **SATIRICAL** magazine *Private Eye* and later of a magazine started in 1992, *The Oldie*. He also appears on radio and television programmes.
- in-grate** /ɪnˈɡreɪt, ˈɪŋɡreɪt||ˈɪŋɡreɪt/ *n fml or lit derog* an ungrateful person
- in-gra-ti-ate** /ɪnˈɡreɪʃieɪt/ *v* [T (with)] *derog* to gain approval or favour for (oneself) by making oneself pleasant, showing admiration, etc.: *He is obviously trying to ingratiate himself with the boss.* —compare **INSINUATE into**
- in-gra-ti-at-ing** /ɪnˈɡreɪʃieɪtɪŋ/ *adj derog* (of a person or their behaviour) showing that one wishes to gain favour: *an ingratiating smile/manner* — **~ly adv**
- in-grat-i-tude** /ɪnˈɡrætɪtjuːd||-tuːd/ *n* [U] ungratefulness
- in-gre-di-ent** /ɪnˈɡrɪdiənt/ *n* [(of)] any of the things that are formed into a mixture when making something, *esp.* in cooking: *Flour and fat are the most important ingredients.* | (fig.) *Imagination and hard work are the ingredients of success.*
- In-gres** /ˈæŋɡrə/, **Jean Au-guste Dom-i-nique** /ʒɒn ˈəʊɡjuːst ˈdɒminiːk||ʒɑːn əʊˈɡjuːst dɑːməˈniːk/ (1780–1867) a French painter, leader of the **NEOCLASSICAL** school, known for his pictures of people (**PORTRAITS**) and historical works
- in-gress** /ˈɪŋɡres/ *n* [U] *fml or lit* the act of entering or the right to enter —opposite **egress**
- in-group** /ɪnˈɡruːp/ *n* [C+sing./pl. v] often *derog* a social group that shows favour to those who belong to it and tries to keep out non-members; **CLIQUE**: *There's a little in-group in that department that seems to keep all the good jobs for itself.*
- in-grow-ing** /ɪnˈɡrəʊɪŋ/ *esp. BrE* || **in-grown** *AmE* /ɪnˈɡrəʊn/ — *adj* [A no comp.] growing inwards, *esp.* into the flesh: *an ingrowing toenail*
- in-hab-it** /ɪnˈhæbɪt/ *v* [T] *fml or tech* (*esp.* of animals or large groups of people) to live in (a place or area): *Woodpeckers inhabit hollow trees.* | *tribes who inhabit the tropical forests* | (fig.) *Who knows what dark fears inhabit the mind of a madman?* —see **LIVE (USAGE)** — **~able adj** : *an inhabitable area*
- in-hab-i-tant** /ɪnˈhæbɪtənt/ *n* [(of)] a person, or sometimes an animal, that lives in a particular place regularly, usually, or for a long period of time: *a city of 6 million inhabitants*
- in-ha-lant** /ɪnˈheɪlənt/ *n* [C;U] something, *esp.* a medicine, that is inhaled
- in-hale** /ɪnˈheɪl/ *v* [I;T] **1** to breathe (something) in: *He inhaled deeply.* | *These days we can't help inhaling car exhaust fumes.* —opposite **exhale** **2** to take (cigarette smoke) into the lungs — **~halation** /ɪnhəˈleɪʃən/ *n* [C;U]
- in-hal-er** /ɪnˈheɪləɹ/ *n* an apparatus which is used for inhaling medicine in the form of **VAPOUR**, *usu.* to make breathing easier
- in-har-mo-ni-ous** /ɪnhɑːˈməʊniəs||-ɑːr/ *adj fml* not going well with something else/each other: *an inharmonious set of colours* | *inharmonious sounds* — **~ly adv** — **~ness n** [U]
- in-her-e** /ɪnˈhɪəɹ/ *v*  
**inhere in** sthg. *phr v* [T] *fml or tech* to be a natural part of
- in-her-ent** /ɪnˈhɪərənt, -ˈher-/ *adj* [(in)] present naturally as a part of; not able to be thought of as separate: *I'm afraid the problems you mention are inherent in the system; to get rid of them we'd have to change the whole system.* | *the inherent contradictions in his arguments*
- in-her-ent-ly** /ɪnˈhɪərəntli, -ˈher-/ *adv* by its or one's nature; intrinsically (**INTRINSIC**): *inherently different*
- in-her-it** /ɪnˈherɪt/ *v* **1** [I;T (from)] to receive (property, a



title, etc.) left by someone who has died: *If he dies without making a will, his closest relative will inherit.* | *She inherited the land from her grandfather.* | (fig.) *The government claims it has inherited all its difficulties from the previous administration.* **2** [T (from)] to receive (qualities of mind or body) from one's parents, grandmother or grandfather, etc.: *He's inherited his father's nose/bad temper.* | *an inherited characteristic/trait* —compare **HAND** down; see also **DISINHERIT**

**in-her-i-tance** /ɪn'herɪtəns/ *n* **1** [C usu. sing.] something that has been inherited, esp. property, money, or a title: *He spent all his inheritance in less than a year.* | *to come into/take possession of one's inheritance* **2** [U] the act of inheriting —compare **HERITAGE**, **LEGACY**

**inheritance tax** /ɪ'ɪnɪtəns/ *n* [U] a tax on money given or inherited from one person to another **2** a tax on property or money that is left to a person when someone dies. This tax is known to be very complicated because of the rules about who pays and who does not pay. —see also **DEATH DUTIES**, **ESTATE TAX**, **PROBATE**

**in-hib-it** /ɪn'hɪbɪt/ *v* [T] **1** to prevent or hold back; **RESTRICT** (something): *Loosen any tight clothing, which may inhibit breathing.* | *The mild weather has inhibited the sales of winter clothing.* | *regulations that have inhibited the growth of new businesses.* **2** to make (someone) inhibited: *His presence inhibits me.* | *an inhibiting influence* **inhibit** sbdy. from sthg. *phr v* [T+v-ing] to prevent from (doing something), esp. by some controlling influence: *Fear inhibited him from talking.*

**in-hib-it-ed** /ɪn'hɪbɪtɪd/ *adj* (of a person or their character) unable to express what one really feels or do what one really wants: *I feel very inhibited when people are watching me.* | *too inhibited to laugh freely/to talk about sex* —opposite **uninhibited** —*~ly adv*

**in-hi-bi-tion** /ɪnhɪ'bɪʃən/ *n* [C;U] the state of, or a feeling of, being inhibited: *She soon loses her inhibitions when she's drunk two or three glasses of wine.* | *sexual inhibitions* | *He has no inhibitions about performing in public.*

**in-hos-pi-ta-ble** /ɪnhɒ'spɪtəbəl/ *adj* [(to, towards)] *derog* **1** (of a person or action) not showing kindness, esp. not giving food and shelter in one's own home: *It was very inhospitable of them not even to offer us a cup of coffee.* **2** (of a place) not suitable to stay in or live in, esp. because of severe weather, lack of shelter, etc.: *inhospitable desert areas* —*bly adv*

**in-house, in-house** /ɪn'haʊs/ *adj* carried on within a group or organization: *Is she an inhouse worker or a freelance?* —*inhouse adv*: *Do you work inhouse?*

**in-hu-man** /ɪn'hju:mən/ *adj* **1** very cruel: *an inhuman tyrant* **2** lacking warm human feelings; **IMPERSONAL** **3** not human: *A sinister inhuman scream rang out across the moors.* —compare **SUBHUMAN**, **SUPERHUMAN**

**in-hu-mane** /ɪnhju:'meɪn/ *adj* not showing ordinary human kindness or sympathy, esp. when it should be shown: *inhumane treatment of animals* —*~ly adv*

**in-hu-man-i-ty** /ɪnhju:'mænɪti/ *n* [C often pl.; U] (an act showing) the quality of being cruel and harming others: *an example of man's inhumanity to man*

**in-im-i-cal** /ɪ'nɪmɪkəl/ *adj* [(to)] *fml* very unfavourable; **HOSTILE**: *conditions inimical to economic development*

**in-im-i-ta-ble** /ɪ'nɪmɪtəbəl/ *adj* *apprec* too good for anyone else to copy with the same high quality: *He delivered the speech in his own inimitable style.* —see also **IMITATE** —*bly adv*

**in-iq-ui-tous** /ɪ'nɪkwɪtəs/ *adj fml* extremely unjust or wicked: *an iniquitous suggestion* | *iniquitous tax increases* —*~ly adv*

**in-iq-ui-ty** /ɪ'nɪkwɪti/ *n* [C;U] (an act or case of) injustice or wickedness: *The bar in the old harbour was a den of iniquity.* (=place of great wickedness)

**i-ni-tial** /ɪ'nɪʃəl/ *adj* [A no comp.] which is (at) the beginning: *The initial talks formed the basis of the later agreement.* | *After she'd got over/overcome her initial shyness, she became very friendly.* | *the initial investment/outlay*

**initial** *n* [usu. pl.] a **CAPITAL** (=large) letter at the beginning of a name, esp. when used alone to represent a person's first name(s) and last name: *His initials are PHJ: they stand for Peter Henry Johnson.*

**initial** *v* -ll- *BrE* || -l- *AmE* [T] to write one's initials on (a piece of writing), usu. to show approval or agreement: *Please would you initial these memos, sir?*

**i-ni-tial-ly** /ɪ'nɪʃəli/ *adv* at the beginning; at first: *Initially, she opposed the plan, but later she changed her mind.*

**initial teach-ing al-pha-bet** /ɪ'ɪnɪʃəl'ælfəbet/ [the] a 44-character **PHONETIC** alphabet used to teach children to read English

**i-ni-ti-ate** /ɪ'nɪʃiət/ *v* [T] **1** to be responsible for starting: *The government has initiated a massive new house-building programme.* **2** [(into)] to give (someone) some secret or mysterious knowledge: *to initiate someone into the mysteries of a secret religion* **3** [(into) often pass.] to introduce (someone) into a club, group, etc., esp. with a special ceremony —see also **UNINITIATED** —**-ation** /ɪ'nɪʃi'eɪʃən/ *n* [C;U (into)]: *Many tribes have initiation ceremonies for young men and women when they become adults.*

**i-ni-ti-ate** <sup>2</sup> /ɪ'nɪʃiət/ *n* a person who is instructed or skilled in some special field, esp. one who knows its secrets or mysteries: *rituals known only to initiates*

**i-ni-tia-tive** /ɪ'nɪʃətɪv/ *n* **1** [U] *apprec* the ability to make decisions and take action without asking for the help or advice of others: *I wish my son would show a bit more initiative.* | *Don't keep asking me for advice; use your (own) initiative.* **2** [C] the first movement or action which starts something happening: *He took the initiative in organizing a party after his brother's wedding.* | *The government is making some fresh initiatives to try to resolve the dispute.* **3** [the] the position of being able to take action or influence events: *Because of a stupid mistake, we lost the initiative in the negotiations; the other side has the initiative now.* **4** the process which allows voters to suggest a law by signing a **PETITION** which is then voted on in an election or approved by the **LEGISLATURE** (=people who make laws) —compare **REFERENDUM** **5 on one's own initiative** (done) according to one's own plan and without help; not suggested by someone else

**in-ject** /ɪn'dʒekt/ *v* [T (with, into)] to put (liquid) into (someone) with a special needle (**SYRINGE**): *This drug can't be swallowed; it has to be injected.* | *The lab assistant injected the rat with the new drug.* | (fig.) *The arrival of our friends with several crates of beer injected new life into the flagging party.*

**in-jec-tion** /ɪn'dʒekʃən/ *n* [C;U (into)] an act of injecting: *The drug is taken by injection.* | (fig.) *The organization will need a massive injection of government money.*

**in-joke** /ɪ'ɔː/ *n* a joke which is understood only by a particular group of people: *taxi-drivers' in-jokes about tourists*

**in-ju-di-cious** /ɪndʒu:'dɪʃəs/ *adj fml* (of an action or statement) not wise or sensible; showing bad judgment: *an injudicious remark* —*~ly adv* —*~ness n* [U]

**In-jun** /ɪ'ɪndʒən/ *n infml* (offensive to Native Americans) **1** a Native American **2 honest Injun** esp. *AmE* truthfully; really: *He told me everything, honest Injun.*

**in-junc-tion** /ɪn'dʒʌŋkʃən/ *n* [(against)] *law* a command or official order to do or not to do something: *The court has issued an injunction forbidding them to strike for a week.* | *The financier took out an injunction against the magazine to prevent them from publishing the story.*

**in-jure** /ɪ'ɪndʒə/ *v* [T] **1** to cause physical harm to (a person or animal), esp. in an accident; hurt seriously: *Two people were killed and seven were injured, some of them seriously, when the car hit the bus.* | *He can't play today because he's injured his knee.* | *She was badly injured in the accident.* | (fig.) *I hope I didn't injure (=offend) her feelings.* **2** to damage: *His reputation will be badly injured by these vicious rumours.* —see **WOUND**<sup>3</sup> (**USAGE**)

**in-jured** /ɪ'ɪndʒəd/ *adj* hurt: *an injured knee* | *injured pride* [also *n*, the+P] | *Among the dead and injured were six children.* —see **WOUND**<sup>3</sup> (**USAGE**)

**in-ju-ri-ous** /ɪn'dʒʊəriəs/ *adj* [(to)] *fml* causing injury; damaging: *Smoking is injurious to health.* —*~ly adv*

**in-ju-ry** /ɪ'ɪndʒəri/ *n* [(to)] **1** [U] harm; damage to a living thing: *insurance against injury at work* | (fig.) *injury to one's pride* **2** [C] a physical hurt or wound, esp. when caused accidentally: *The driver of the car received/sustained serious injuries to the legs and arms.* | *Be careful lifting that heavy box — you'll do yourself an injury!* —see also **add insult to injury** (**ADD**)

**injury time** /ɪ'ɪndʒəri/ *n* [U] *BrE* additional playing time at the end of a match, esp. in football, played to make up for time lost through injuries to players



- in-jus-tice** /ɪn'dʒʌstɪs/ *n* 1 [U] the fact of not being just; unfairness 2 [C] an act or situation showing this: *one of life's little injustices* 3 **do someone an injustice** to judge someone in an unfair way and/or believe something bad about them which is untrue: *You do him an injustice to say he's lazy; he's just a slow worker.*
- ink**<sup>1</sup> /ɪŋk/ *n* [C;U] coloured liquid used for writing, printing, or drawing: *written in ink* | *a bottle of ink* | *a selection of different-coloured inks* —see also INDIAN INK
- ink**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T] to put ink on: *He inked the printing plate.*  
**ink sthg.** ↔ **in phr v** [T] to complete (something drawn in pencil or left unfilled) using ink: *to ink in a pencil sketch*
- ink-blot test** /'ɪŋkblɒt, test||-blɔ:t-/ *n* a PSYCHOLOGICAL test based on a person's reactions to marks (BLOTS) made by ink
- In-ka-tha Free-dom Party** /ɪn,kɑ:tə 'frɪdəm ,pɑ:ti- || -,pɑ:r-/ [the] a black South African nationalist movement representing the Zulu people and led by Chief Buthelezi
- ink-jet print-er** /'ɪŋkdʒet ,prɪntə/ *n* an electronic printer, often connected to a small computer, which gets ink on the paper by shooting it through very small holes in a moving part
- ink-ling** /'ɪŋklɪŋ/ *n* [S (of, as to) usu. in questions or negatives] a slight idea or suggestion: *Could you give me an/some/any inkling of what the committee's findings are likely to be?* [+ (that)] *I didn't have the slightest inkling (=didn't know at all) that she was so ill.* [+wh-] *He hasn't got an inkling how to do it.*
- ink-pad** /'ɪŋkpæd/ *n* a small box containing ink on a thick piece of cloth or other material, used for putting ink onto a marker (STAMP<sup>2</sup>(3)) that is to be pressed onto paper
- ink-stand** /'ɪŋkstænd/ *n* a container for pens, pots of ink, etc., usu. kept on a desk
- ink-well** /'ɪŋk-wel/ *n* an ink container which fits into a hole in a desk
- ink-y** /'ɪŋki/ *adj* 1 marked with ink: *inky fingers* 2 very dark: *I stared out into the inky blackness of the night.* —**iness** *n* [U]
- INLA** /,aɪ en el 'eɪ/ *abbrev. for* IRISH NATIONAL LIBERATION ARMY
- in-laid** /,ɪn'leɪd-/ *adj* [no comp.] 1 [(in, into)] set attractively into another substance: *gold inlaid in(to) wood* | *inlaid gold* 2 [(with)] having another substance set in it: *wood inlaid with gold and precious stones* | *inlaid wood*
- in-land**<sup>1</sup> /'ɪnlænd/ *adj* [A no comp.] done or placed inside a country, not near the coast or near other countries: *an inland sea* | *inland waterways* | *inland trade*
- in-land**<sup>2</sup> /ɪn'lənd/ *adv* towards or in the middle of the country: *We drove/headed further inland.* | *There are mountains inland.*
- Inland Rev-e-nue** /,ɪn '.../ also **the Revenue**— [the] the government department which collects national taxes in Britain. The Inland Revenue collects taxes directly from income and capital. —compare INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE
- in-laws** /'ɪn- / *n* [P] *informal* one's relatives by marriage, esp. the father and mother of one's husband/wife
- in-lay** /'ɪnleɪ/ *n* 1 [C;U] an inlaid pattern, surface, or substance: *wood with an inlay of gold* 2 [C] a filling of a metal or another substance used in the inside of a decayed or damaged tooth
- in-let** /'ɪnlet, 'ɪnlɪt/ *n* 1 a narrow stretch of water reaching from a sea, lake, etc., into the land or between islands 2 a way in, esp. for water or other liquid: *a fuel inlet* —compare OUTLET
- in lo-co pa-ren-tis** /ɪn ,ləʊkəʊ pə'rentɪs/ *adv Lat fml* having the responsibilities of a parent towards someone else's children: *Teachers at a boarding school are in loco parentis.*
- in-mate** /'ɪnmet/ *n* someone who lives in or esp. is kept in a place, typically with many other people, such as a prisoner in a prison, a patient in a MENTAL HOSPITAL, etc.: *One of the inmates has escaped.*
- in me-mo-ri-am** /ɪn mɪ'mɔ:riəm/ *prep Lat* (used before the name marked on a stone above a grave, or in a newspaper advertisement) in memory of: *In Memoriam John Jones 1871–1956*
- in-most** /'ɪnməʊst/ also **innermost**— *adj* [A no comp.] farthest inside: *the inmost depths of the cave* | (fig.) *one's inmost feelings* —opposite **outermost**
- inn** /ɪn/ *n* 1 *esp. BrE* a small PUB or hotel, esp. one built (in the style of) many centuries ago: *an old country inn* —see also INNS OF COURT 2 **no room at the inn** *quote* a slightly changed phrase from the story in the Bible telling of the birth of Jesus. Jesus was born in a STABLE because there was no room for his mother, Mary, in an inn. —see also NATIVITY
- ▷ **USAGE** British people use the word **inn** only when talking about a particular, old-style pub or hotel: *I know a very nice little inn quite close to here.* The usual word is **pub** or **hotel**: *Let's find a pub and have a drink.* | *Where's the nearest hotel?* In American English, **inn** does not have any special meaning apart from **hotel** or **restaurant** and is sometimes used instead of them in the names of businesses wanting to appear old-fashioned.◁
- in-nards** /'ɪnədz||-ər-/ *n* [P] *informal* the inner parts, usu. of the stomach: *a pain in her innards* | *He'd spread the innards of the engine all over the kitchen floor.*
- in-nate** /,ɪ'neɪt-/ *adj* (of a quality) which someone was born with: *innate kindness/laziness* | *an innate sense of fun* | (fig.) *the innate flaws in the plan* — **ly** *adv*: *innately kind*
- in-ner** /'ɪnə/ *adj* [A no comp.] 1 on the inside or close to the middle: *the inner ear* | *an inner room* | *inner London* 2 close to the centre of control: *an inner circle (=group) of ministers* | *the inner workings of government* 3 not expressed; secret, esp. if of the spirit: *She suspected his comments had an inner meaning.* | *an inner certainty* | *He knows nothing about my inner self.* 4 of the mind or spirit: *the inner life* —compare **OUTER**
- inner ci-t-y** /,ɪn- '...-/ *n* the central part of a city, esp. an area with a high (usu. poor) population, old buildings in bad condition, etc.: *The government plans an extensive building programme to revitalize the inner cities/the inner city areas.* | *inner city decay*
- Inner Heb-ri-des** /,ɪn- '.../ [the +P] a large group of islands close to the NW coast of Scotland
- inner light** /,ɪn- '.../ *n* [S] (often caps.) a heavenly presence, esp. in the Quaker religion, to help and guide the soul
- Inner Lon-don** /,ɪn- '...-/ the parts of London including the City, Westminster, and the BOROUGHs that border them. Most of these boroughs have councils controlled by the Labour Party.
- inner man** /,ɪn- '.../ **inner wom-an** /,ɪn- '.../ *fem.*— *n* [the] 1 the soul; the mind 2 *humor* desire for food; APPETITE: *A juicy steak and kidney pudding should satisfy the inner man!*
- Inner Mon-go-li-a** /,ɪn- '...-/ an area in N China known for its large grasslands
- in-ner-most** /'ɪnəməʊst||-nər-/ *adj* [A no comp.] INMOST
- inner plan-et** /,ɪn- '...-/ *n* any of the planets Mercury, Venus, Earth, or Mars, whose ORBITS are nearer the sun than those of the other PLANETS
- inner space** /,ɪn- '.../ *n* [U] 1 space at or near the Earth's surface, esp. under the sea 2 the unconscious human mind
- Inner Tem-ple** /,ɪn- '.../ [the] the oldest of the four Inns of Court in London —see INNS OF COURT
- inner tube** /'ɪn- '.../ *n* the circular air-filled tube inside a TYRE
- inner-tube** /,ɪn- '.../ *v* [I] *AmE* to ride on an inner tube either in water or down a snow-covered hill: *Let's go inner-tubing after school!*
- in-ning** /'ɪnɪŋ/ *n* any of the usu. nine playing periods into which a game of BASEBALL or SOFTBALL is divided
- in-nings** /'ɪnɪŋz/ *n* **innings** 1 the period of time during which a cricket team or player BATS: *England made 302 in their first innings.* | *He played a brilliant innings.* 2 *BrE informal* a time when one is active, esp. in a public position, or alive: *I've had a good innings, but it's time for me to retire.*
- inn-keep-er** /'ɪn,kɪpə/ *n* *old use* a person who owns or runs an inn —compare **PUBLICAN** (1)
- in-no-cent** /'ɪnəsənt/ *adj* 1 [(of)] (of a person) not guilty of a crime or SIN; blameless: *He was innocent of the crime.* | *They hanged an innocent man.* | *acts of terrorism against innocent people* | *In the British and American legal systems, an accused person is innocent till proven guilty.* 2 (of a thing) harmless in effect or intention: *innocent enjoyment/pleasures* | *He was startled by their*



*angry response to his innocent remark.* 3 *often derog* (of a person) having little experience of the world and not able to recognize evil; NAIVE: *an innocent young child* — ~ly *adv* — *cence* *n* [U]: *He protested his innocence loudly as they dragged him off to prison.*

**Innocents' Day** /'... / 28 December, a day on which people in the Roman, Greek, and Anglican churches remember the killing of the children of Bethlehem by Herod — see also MASSACRE OF THE INNOCENTS

**in-noc-u-ous** /ɪ'nɒkjʊəs||ɪ'nɒ:k-/ *adj* 1 (esp. of an action or statement) not likely to or intended to harm or offend: *I made what I thought was a perfectly innocuous remark and he got most upset.* 2 not having harmful effects: *Would you like to try some of the local wine? It's quite innocuous!* — ~ly *adv* — ~ness *n* [U]

**in-no-vate** /ɪ'nəveɪt/ *v* [I] to make changes, introduce new ideas, inventions, etc. — **vator** *n*

**in-no-va-tion** /ɪ'nə'veɪʃən/ *n* 1 [C] a new idea, method, or invention: *recent innovations in printing techniques* 2 [U] the introduction of new things: *If our industries shy away from innovation, we will never compete successfully with other countries.*

**in-nov-a-tive** /ɪ'nə'veɪtɪv/ also **in-nov-a-tor-y** /-təri/ *BrE* — *adj* *apprec* 1 newly invented or introduced; different from, and esp. better or cleverer than, previous ones: *innovative printing techniques* | *innovative ideas* 2 tending or liking to introduce new ideas or methods: *a very innovative manager/firm*

**Inns-bruck** /'ɪnzbrʊk/ a city in SW Austria known as an industrial centre and a summer and winter tourist RESORT

**Inns of Court** /ɪ· · / [the+P] the four law societies and their buildings in London, for students and practising BARRISTERS, which an English barrister must belong to. The four societies are Lincoln's Inn, the Inner Temple, the Middle Temple, and Gray's Inn.

**in-nu-en-do** /ɪnju'endəʊ/ *n* — **does** or **-dos** 1 [C] a remark that suggests something unpleasant or disapproving without saying it directly 2 [U] (the making of) such unpleasant remarks: *scurrilous newspapers that print rumour and innuendo* — see also INSINUATION

**in-nu-it** /'ɪnjuɪt, 'ɪnuɪt/ *n, adj* see INUIT

**in-nu-me-ra-ble** /ɪ'nju:mərəbəl||ɪ'nju:z-, ɪ'nuz-/ *adj* too many to be counted

**in-nu-mer-ate** /ɪ'nju:məreɪt||ɪ'nju:z-, ɪ'nuz-/ *adj* *BrE* not understanding calculation with numbers; not NUMERATE — compare ILLITERATE — **acy** *n* [U]

**i-noc-u-late** /ɪ'nɒkjʊleɪt||ɪ'nɒ:z-/ *v* [T (with, against)] to introduce a weak form of a disease into (someone), esp. by INJECTION, as a protection against the disease: *The doctor inoculated her with the serum.* | *Have you been inoculated against hepatitis?* — compare IMMUNIZE, VACCINATE — **lation** /ɪ'nɒkjʊ'leɪʃən||ɪ'nɒ:z-/ *n* [C;U]: *a certificate of inoculation*

**in-of-fen-sive** /ɪ'nə'fensɪv/ *adj* (of a person or their behaviour) not causing any harm or offence: *an inoffensive manner* | *a quiet inoffensive little man* — ~ly *adv* — ~ness *n* [U]

**in-op-e-ra-ble** /ɪ'nɒpərəbəl||ɪ'nɒ:z-/ *adj* 1 (of an illness or a growth) that cannot be treated or removed by an operation so as to cure the person: *I'm afraid her condition is inoperable.* | *an inoperable tumour* 2 *fml* which cannot be put into practice; not practical

**in-op-e-ra-tive** /ɪ'nɒpərətɪv||ɪ'nɒ:z-/ *adj* 1 (esp. of a machine) not working or able to work as usual 2 (of a law, rule, etc.) not in effect or not able to be put into effect

**in-op-por-tune** /ɪ'nɒpətjʊn||ɪ'nɒ:pər'tu:n/ *adj* *fml* unsuitable, esp. because happening at an inconvenient time: *They called at an inopportune moment, when we were about to go out.* | *an inopportune visit/remark* — ~ly *adv* — ~ness *n* [U]

**in-or-di-nate** /ɪ'nɒ:dənɪt||-ɔ:r-/ *adj* *fml* beyond reasonable limits: *inordinate demands for higher wages* | *It has taken an inordinate length of time.* (=too long) — ~ly *adv*

**in-or-gan-ic** /ɪ'nɒ:gænɪk/||-ɔ:r-/ *adj* 1 not of living material; not ORGANIC 2 not showing the pattern or organization typical of natural growth — compare INANIMATE — ~ally /kli/ *adv*

**inorganic chem-is-try** /ɪ· · · / *n* [U] the scientific study of inorganic material

**in-pa-tient** /ɪ· · · / *n* someone staying in a hospital for treatment — compare OUTPATIENT

**in per-so-nam** /ɪn pə'səʊnəm||pər-/ *adj, adv* *Lat* (of a legal action) against a person, to make the person accept a RESPONSIBILITY or duty — compare IN REM

**in pro-pri-a per-so-na** /ɪn prəʊpɪə pə'səʊnə||-pər-/ *adv* *Lat* in person, without the help of a lawyer

**in-put** /'ɪnpʊt/ *n* [S;U] 1 something that is put in for use, esp. by a machine, such as electrical current or information for a computer: *As the input of energy is increased, the volume gets louder.* 2 something, such as advice, information, or effort, that is provided in order to help something succeed or develop: *We mustn't forget the sales department's input.* (=the help, information, etc. they gave)

**input**<sup>2</sup> *v* -tt-; *past tense & participle inputted or input* [T (into)] to put (information) into a computer: *Have you inputted the new data yet?*

**input/out-put** /ɪ· · / *n, adj* see I/O

**in-quest** /'ɪŋkwɛst/ *n* [(on, into)] an official inquiry, usu. to find out the cause of a sudden or unexpected death, esp. when there is a possibility of crime: *The inquest on his death will be held next Thursday.* | (fig.) *There's bound to be an inquest into the England team's terrible performance.*

**in-qui-e-tude** /ɪn'kwaiəɪtju:d||-tu:d/ *n* [U] *fml* anxiety; lack of peace of mind

**in-quire, en-** /ɪn'kwaiəɪ/ *v* [I (about, into); T] 1 to ask for information: *I'll inquire about the trains.* | *I inquired the way to the station.* [+wh-] *I inquired whether the 6:00 train would leave on time.* 2 **inquire within** (a sign or notice saying that information can be found inside) — see ASK (USAGE) — ~quirer *n*

**inquire after** sbdy./sthg. *phr v* [T] to ask about the health or well-being of: *She inquired after his mother's health/after his mother.*

**inquire into** sthg. *phr v* [T] to make a search or inquiry into, in order to discover information; INVESTIGATE: *The court ordered the council to inquire into the conduct of the two officers.*

**inquire sthg. of** sbdy. *phr v* [T] *fml* to ask (someone) about (something): [+wh-] *I must inquire of you where you obtained this money, sir.*

**in-quir-ing, en-** /ɪn'kwaiəɪrɪŋ/ *adj* 1 [A] as if asking a question: *an inquiring look* 2 *apprec* showing an interest in knowing about things: *She has a very inquiring mind.* — ~ly *adv*: *He looked at me inquiringly.*

**in-quir-y, en-** /ɪn'kwaiəɪrɪ||ɪŋkwəri, ɪn'kwaiəɪrɪ/ *n* 1 [C;U] (into, about) (an act of) inquiring: *We made some inquiries into her movements/into what she had done on that day.* | *After months of fruitless inquiry we finally discovered the truth.* 2 [C (into)] an attempt to find out the reason for something or how something happened, usu. in the form of official meetings and other actions: *a government inquiry into the air crash* | *to conduct a public inquiry* 3 **helping the police with their inquiries** *BrE* being held and questioned by the police about a crime, but not yet officially charged with the crime. This phrase is used esp. by the police: *Two people were shot dead by a gunman in central Birmingham today. A man is helping the police with their inquiries.*

▷ **USAGE** Enquiry and inquiry are almost exactly the same. Inquiry is more often used for a long serious study: *an inquiry into the diseases caused by smoking.* ◁

**inquiry a-gent** /ɪ· · · ||ɪ· · ·, ɪ· · ·, ɪ· · · / *n* *BrE* a PRIVATE DETECTIVE

**in-qui-si-tion** /ɪŋkwɪ'zɪʃən/ *n* *usu. derog* an inquiry, esp. one that is carried out with little regard for the rights of the people being questioned: *I was subjected to a lengthy inquisition by the tax inspector.*

**Inquisition** [the] (in former times) the official Roman Catholic organization for discovering and punishing HERESY (=unacceptable religious beliefs). People connect the Inquisition with the use of TORTURE, and almost certain death: *the Spanish Inquisition*

**in-quis-i-tive** /ɪn'kwɪzɪtɪv/ *adj* *often derog* (of a person or their behaviour) trying to find out (too many) details about things and people: *Don't be so inquisitive!* — ~ly *adv*: *He peeped inquisitively into the drawer.* — ~ness *n* [U]



**in-quis-i-tor** /ɪnˈkwɪzɪtər/ *n* 1 *usu. derog* a person making an inquisition: *My inquisitor considered my answer for a moment.* 2 (often *cap.*) (in former times) an officer of the Inquisition, esp. one who is very cruel when making an inquiry —see also **TORQUEMADA**

**in-quis-i-to-ri-al** /ɪnˈkwɪzɪˈtɔːriəl/ *adj fml, usu. derog* like or typical of an inquisitor —*ly adv*

**in-quo-rate** /ɪnˈkwɔːrɪt/ *adj tech* (of a meeting) not having enough people present, so that it cannot officially be held

**in re** /ɪn ˈriː/ *prep* regarding; concerning; **RE**<sup>2</sup>; (used mostly in business letters but sometimes in speech)

**in rem** /ɪn ˈrem/ *adj or adv Lat* (of a legal action) against a thing, such as a right or piece of property, in order to get the use of it —compare **IN PERSONAM**

**in-res-i-dence** /ɪnˈresɪdəns/ *adj* [after *n*] being officially connected with an organization in the stated position: *She was made poet-in-residence at the university, and worked with the students for a year.*

**in-roads** /ɪnˈrəʊdz/ also **inroad** *sing.* — *n* [(on, upon, in, into)] 1 an attack upon or advance into a new area, esp. one held by an enemy or competitor: *The company is starting to make inroads into the lucrative soft-drinks market.* —compare **INCURSION** 2 an effort or activity that lessens the quantity or difficulty of something: *The long illness made (serious) inroads on his savings.* | *We're beginning to make some inroads into changing people's attitude towards unemployment* (=people are beginning to change their way of thinking)

**INS** /aɪ en ˈes/ *abbrev. for* IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE

**in-sa-lu-bri-ous** /ɪnsəˈluːbrɪəs/ *adj fml* unhealthy: *an insalubrious climate*

**ins and outs** /ɪnˈsænd aʊts/ *n* [the+P (of)] *infml* the details (of a difficult situation, problem, etc.): *Bill explained all the ins and outs of the case to me.*

**in-sane** /ɪnˈseɪn/ *adj* seriously ill in the mind; mad: *He went insane.* | (fig.) *You must be insane to go out in this weather!* | *insane jealousy* [also *n*, the+P] *a hospital for the insane* —*ly adv*: *insanely jealous*

**in-san-i-ta-ry** /ɪnˈsænɪtəri/ *adj* likely to harm the health by causing disease: *insanitary conditions*

**in-san-i-ty** /ɪnˈsænɪti/ *n* [U] madness.

► **CULTURAL NOTE** In criminal law if a person **pleads insanity** (= claims he or she was insane) they are not considered responsible for their actions and would be put into a hospital rather than a prison. Judgments on insanity are often **CONTROVERSIAL** as it is difficult to prove: *The defence entered a plea of insanity.* —see also **DIMINISHED RESPONSIBILITY** ◀

**in-sa-tia-ble** /ɪnˈseɪjəbəl/ *adj* [(for)] that cannot be satisfied: *an insatiable desire/appetite* | *They were insatiable for news of the royal family.* —*bly adv*: *insatiably thirsty*

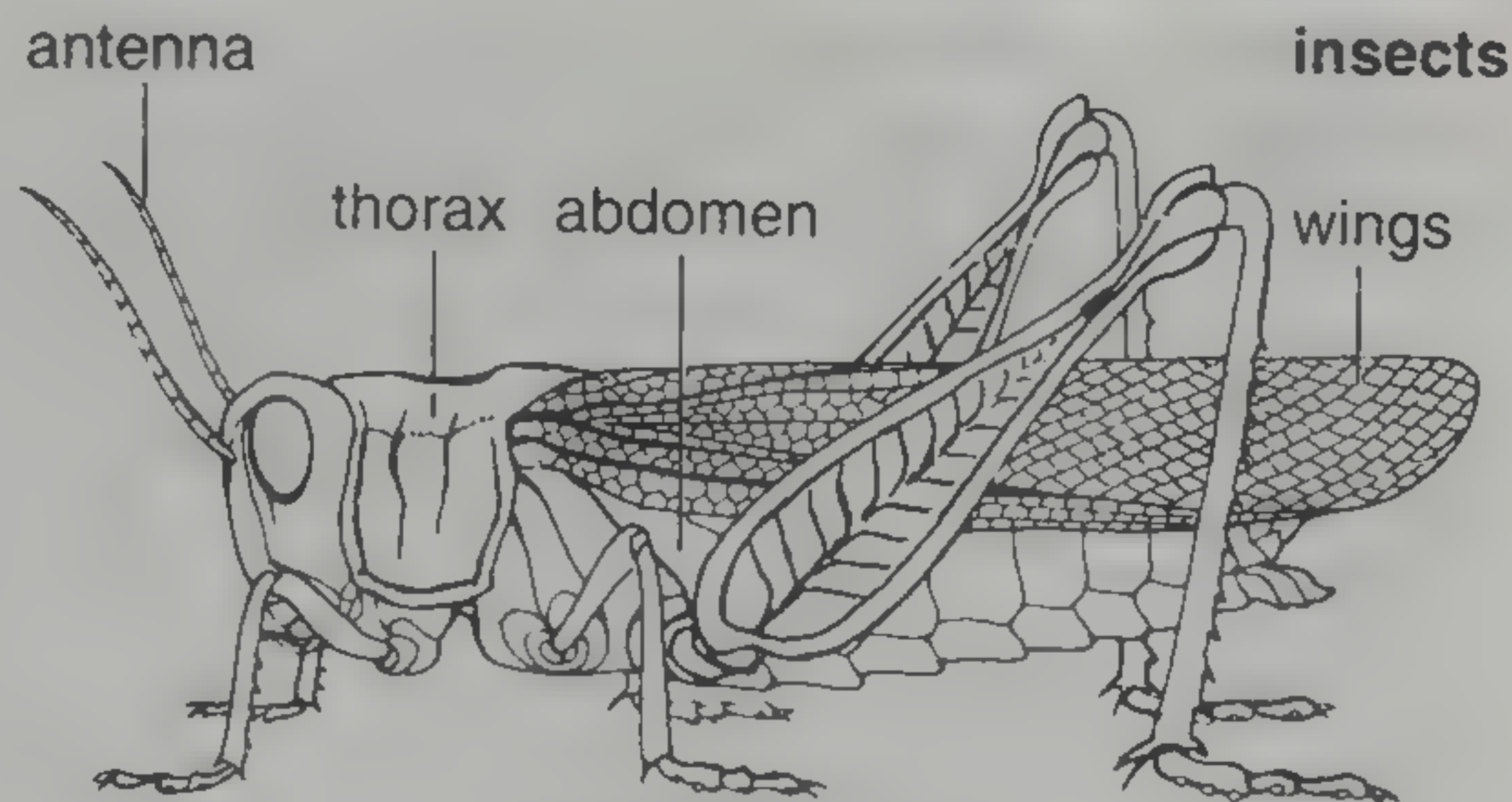
**in-scribe** /ɪnˈskraɪb/ *v* [T] *fml* to write, print, or **ENGRAVE** (something), esp. as a lasting record; mark (a surface) with (something written, printed, etc.): [+obj+in, on, upon] *He inscribed his name in the book* | *The Queen was presented with a specially inscribed copy of the book.* | (fig.) *They have inscribed their names upon the pages of history.* [+obj+with] *He inscribed the book with his name.*

**in-scrip-tion** /ɪnˈskrɪpʃən/ *n* something inscribed, such as a piece of writing marked into the surface of stone b a piece of handwriting at the beginning of a book saying who gave the book to whom and giving the date, year, etc.

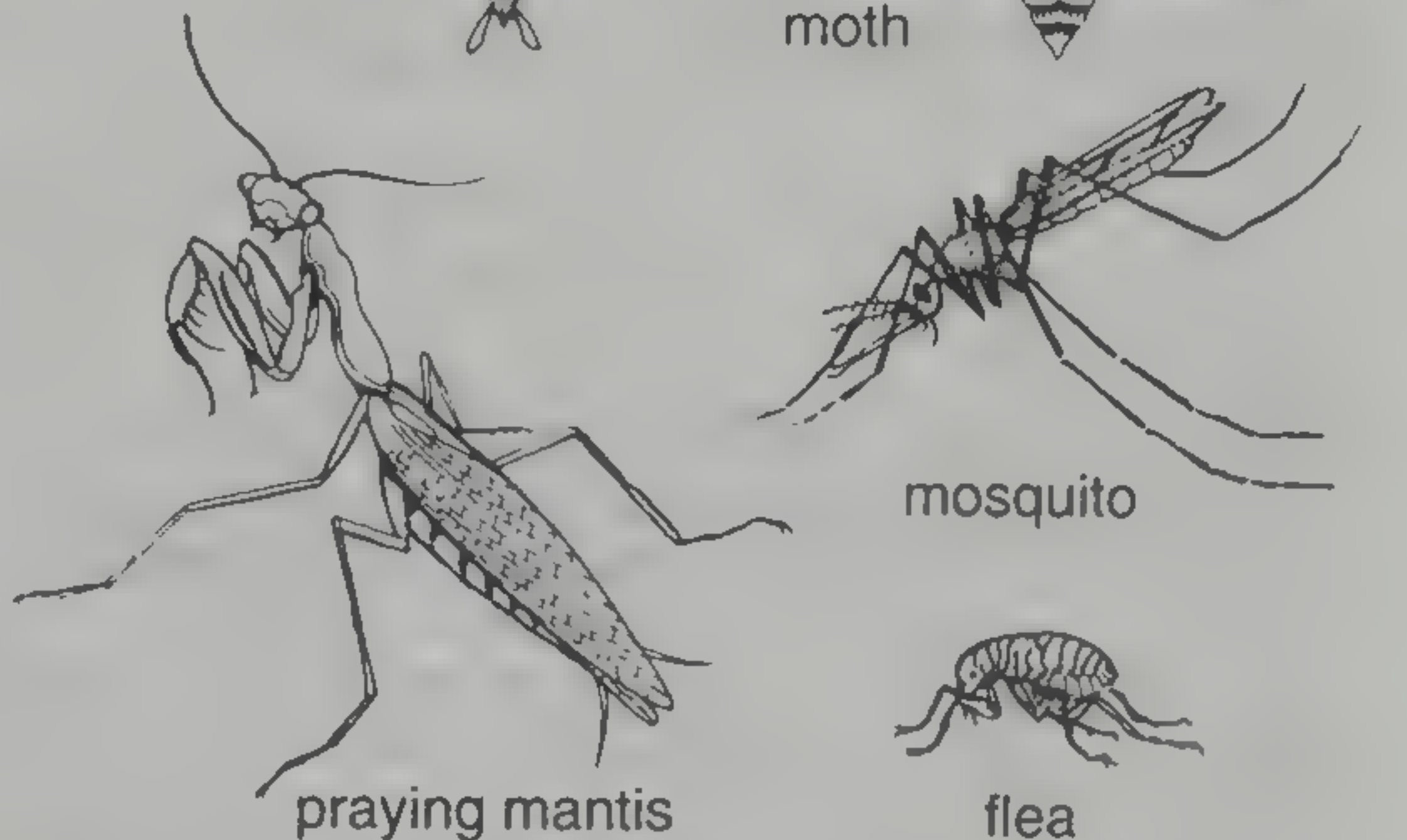
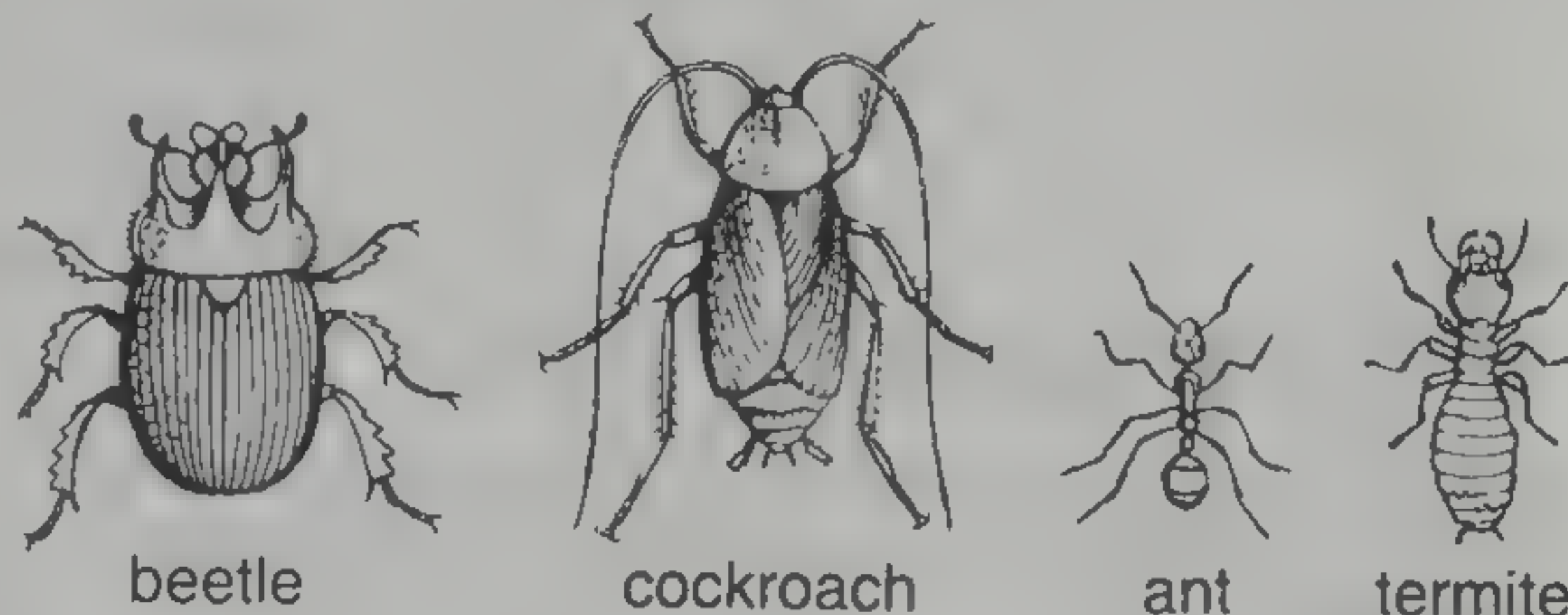
**in-scru-ta-ble** /ɪnˈskruːtəbəl/ *adj* very difficult to understand; whose meaning or way of thinking is not at all clear; mysterious. British and American people sometimes say that people from Asia are inscrutable because they cannot tell what Asian people are thinking from the expression on their faces: *an inscrutable smile* —*bly adv* —*bility* /ɪnˈskruːtəˈbɪlɪti/ *n* [U]

**in-sect** /ɪnˈsekt/ *n* 1 a small creature with no bones, six legs, a body divided into three parts (the head, **THORAX**, and **ABDOMEN**), and usu. two pairs of wings, such as an ant or fly 2 *not tech* any small creature that creeps along the ground, such as a **SPIDER** or worm 3 *infml derog* a person of no worth or importance

**in-sect-i-cide** /ɪnˈsektɪsaɪd/ *n* [C;U] (a) chemical substance made to kill insects: *to spray insecticide on crops* —compare **PESTICIDE** —*cidal* /ɪnˈsektɪˈsaɪdl/ *adj*



locust *BrE*  
grasshopper *AmE*



**in-sect-i-vore** /ɪnˈsektɪvɔːr/ *n* an insectivorous creature

**in-sect-i-v-o-rous** /ɪnˈsektɪvərəs/ *adj* eating insects as food: *Many birds are insectivorous.* —see also **CARNIVORE**, **HERBIVORE**, **OMNIVOROUS**

**in-se-cure** /ɪnˈsiːkjʊər/ *adj* 1 not safe; which cannot give support or is not properly supported; likely to fall: *an insecure wall* | *I feel very insecure up this ladder.* 2 not giving one a feeling of safety; likely to be lost: *an insecure job/investment* 3 anxious and unsure of oneself; not confident: *He's very insecure — that's why he is always bad-tempered.* —*ly adv* —*curity n* [U]: *His confident manner is really just a way of hiding his (feelings of) insecurity.*

**in-sem-i-nate** /ɪnˈsemɪneɪt/ *v* [T] to put male seed into (a female), by the sexual act or by an artificial process: *Cows are usually inseminated artificially nowadays.* —see also **ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION** —**nation** /ɪnˈsemɪˈneɪʃən/ *n* [U]

**in-sen-sate** /ɪnˈsenseɪt/ *adj fml* 1 without the power to have feelings; **INANIMATE** 2 unreasoning; wild: *insensate rage*

**in-sen-si-bil-i-ty** /ɪnˈsensɪˈbɪlɪti/ *n fml* 1 [U] unconsciousness 2 [S;U (to)] *old use* inability to have deep feelings, such as love, sympathy, anger, etc.

**in-sen-si-ble** /ɪnˈsensɪbəl/ *adj fml* 1 unconscious —compare **SENSELESS** (2) 2 [F (of)] lacking knowledge; **UNAWARE**: *insensible of his danger* 3 [F (to)] unable to have feelings, esp. to feel pain: *insensible to pain/to the cold* —see also **INSENSITIVE** 4 too small to be noticed: *an insensible change* —*bly adv*



▷ USAGE **Insensible** is not the opposite of **sensible**. ◁

**in-sen-si-tive** /ɪn'sensɪtɪv/ *adj* [(to)] 1 (of a person or their behaviour) not kind to others because one does not think about how they feel; lacking thoughtfulness and sympathy: *How can you be so insensitive as to laugh at someone in pain?* | *an insensitive remark* | *It was very insensitive of you to tell her about your promotion when she's been unemployed since last year.* 2 not listening to or acting upon (a request, demand, etc.): *Why is the union leadership so insensitive to the feelings of its members?* 3 not showing or feeling the effect of (a force or the presence of something): *This paper is insensitive to light.* | *insensitive to pain* — *~ly adv* — *-tivity* /ɪn'sensɪ'tɪvɪti/ *n* [S;U]

**in-sep-a-ra-ble** /ɪn'sepərəbəl/ *adj* [(from)] impossible to separate from something else or from one another; always together: *The three boys are inseparable.* | *The issue of human rights is inseparable from our struggle for democracy.* — *bly adv* — *-bility* /ɪn'sepərə'bɪləti/ *n* [U]

**in-sert**<sup>1</sup> /ɪn'sɜ:t||-ɜ:rt/ *v* [T (in, into)] to put or place something in (something else): *to insert a key in a lock* | *to insert an amendment into the contract*

**in-sert**<sup>2</sup> /ɪn'sɜ:t||-ɜ:rt/ *n* something that is or can be inserted, esp. written or printed material put in between the pages of a book

**in-ser-tion** /ɪn'sɜ:ʃən||-ɜ:r-/ *n* 1 [U] the act of inserting: *The insertion of the needle under the skin made him wince.* 2 [C] something inserted, esp. an advertisement or ANNOUNCEMENT in a newspaper

**in-ser-vice** /ɪn'sɜ:vɪs/ *adj* [A no comp.] (taking place) during one's working time: *In this job you receive in-service training.*

**in-set**<sup>1</sup> /ɪn'set/ *n* something put as an addition into something else, esp. a small picture or map set in one corner of a larger one

**in-set**<sup>2</sup> /ɪn'set/ *v* -tt-; *past tense & participle inset or insetted* [T (in, into)] to put (something) in as an inset

**INSET** /ɪn'set/ *n* in-service training; (in Britain) training for teachers in STATE SCHOOLS during the school year: *an INSET day*

**in-shore** /ɪn'ʃɔ:ʃ/ *adv* near, towards, or to the shore: *He rowed further inshore.* — compare OFFSHORE — **inshore** *adj* [A no comp.] : *inshore fishing*

**in-side**<sup>1</sup> /ɪn'saɪd, 'ɪnsaɪd/ *n* 1 [(the) S] the inner part of a solid object; the part that is nearest to the centre, or that faces away from the open air: *We painted the inside of the house.* | *The inside of an orange is full of juice.* | *This lock can only be opened from the inside.* — opposite **outside** 2 [the] the side of a road or path nearest to the edge or to the buildings along it: *That car tried to pass me on the inside.* — opposite **outside** 3 [the] *infml* a position in which one is able to know special or secret information: *He could only have been told about it by someone on the inside.* 4 [C] also **insides** *pl.* — *infml* one's stomach: *a pain in my insides* 5 **inside out**: a with the usual inside parts on the outside: *He put his socks on inside out.* | *She turned her drawers inside out* (=searched them very thoroughly, probably throwing things onto the floor) looking for her passport. b *infml* with complete knowledge; very thoroughly: *She knows the subject inside out.*

**in-side**<sup>2</sup> /ɪn'saɪd/ *adj* [A] 1 facing or at the inside: *the inside pages of a newspaper* | *driving slowly in the inside lane* — opposite **outside** 2 from or about those most directly or secretly concerned: *an inside joke* | *As I had some inside information I was able to buy at exactly the right time.* | *The papers are trying to get the inside story* (=what really but secretly happened) *on the royal divorce.* — see also **INSIDE JOB**

**in-side**<sup>3</sup> /ɪn'saɪd/ *adv* 1 to or in the inside: *The children are playing inside* (=indoors) *because it's raining.* | *I opened the box and looked inside.* | (fig.) *I tried to appear calm, but I felt pretty scared inside.* (=in my mind) — opposite **outside** 2 *BrE* downstairs in a bus with two floors 3 *sl, esp. BrE* in prison: *inside for murder* 4 **inside of**: a **INSIDE**<sup>4</sup> (2) b *AmE* for **INSIDE**<sup>4</sup> (1)

**inside**<sup>4</sup> *prep* 1 to or on the inside of; within: *inside the car/the house/my mouth* — opposite **outside** 2 *infml* in less time than: *I'll be back inside an hour.*

▷ USAGE Compare **inside** and **within**. 1 Both words can express the idea of being surrounded by something, but **inside** is more usual in this sense. **Within** is more

formal and mostly used of large areas: **inside the box** | **within the castle**. 2 Both words can mean “in no greater time/distance than” but **within** is more usual in this sense: **within a mile** | **within three weeks**. ◁

**inside job** /ɪn'saɪd ˌdʒɒb/ *n* *infml* a robbery done by someone connected with the place, organization, etc. which has been robbed

**in-sid-er** /ɪn'saɪdə/ *n* someone who is recognized or accepted as a member of a group, esp. someone who has special information or influence — compare **OUTSIDER**

**insider trad-ing** /ɪn'saɪdər ˌtrædɪŋ/ also **insider dealing** — *n* [U] the illegal practice of buying and selling business shares by people (such as company directors) who take advantage of their special knowledge of the plans and business affairs of the companies for which they work

**inside track** /ɪn'saɪd ˌtræk/ *n* [the] 1 (in racing) the track nearest the inside, which is shorter 2 *AmE* an advantageous position in a competition: *the inside track to success in business*

**in-sid-i-ous** /ɪn'sɪdiəs/ *adj* acting gradually and without being noticed, but causing serious harm; secretly harmful: *the insidious spreading of dry rot* | *the insidious trend towards a police state* — *~ly adv* — *~ness n* [U]

**in-sight** /ɪn'saɪt/ *n* [(into)] 1 [U] *apprec* the power of using one's mind to see or understand the true nature of a situation: *a woman of great insight* 2 [C] a sudden, clear, but not always complete understanding: *Her autobiography gave me an insight into the way government actually works.*

**in-sig-ni-a** /ɪn'sɪɡniə/ *n* [P] BADGES or objects which represent the power of an official or important person: *the royal insignia of crown and sceptre* | *Naval officers have stripes on their sleeves as insignia of their rank.*

**in-sig-nif-i-cant** /ɪn'sɪɡnɪfɪkənt/ *adj* of no value and/or importance: *It was a mere detail which seemed insignificant at the time but later proved to be crucial.* | *an insignificant little man* — *~ly adv* — *-cance n* [U]

**in-sin-cere** /ɪn'sɪn'sɪə/ *adj* not sincere; pretended or false: *insincere flattery* | *an insincere smile* — *~ly adv* — *-cerity* /ɪn'sɪn'serɪti/ *n* [U]

**in-sin-u-ate** /ɪn'sɪnjuet/ *v* [T] to suggest (something unpleasant) indirectly by one's behaviour or remarks: *What are you insinuating?* [+ (that)] *Are you insinuating that I'm not telling the truth?* | *I think he's insinuating that the witness has been bribed, Your Honour.*

**insinuate** sbdy. into sthg. *phr v* [T] *fml* or *humor* to cause (esp. oneself) to become part of (something), esp. by unpleasantly indirect methods; gain acceptance (for oneself) into (something): *He tried to insinuate himself into the boss's favour.* — compare **INGRATATE**

**in-sin-u-a-tion** /ɪn'sɪnju'eɪʃən/ *n* [C;U] (an act of) insinuating; (an) indirect suggestion: *She blamed him, not directly but by insinuation.* [+ that] *They made unpleasant insinuations that he might not be quite honest.* — see also **INNUENDO**

**in-sip-id** /ɪn'sɪpɪd/ *adj* *derog* lacking a strong character, taste, or effect: *insipid food* | *an insipid character* — *~ly adv* — *~ness, ~ity* /ɪn'sɪpɪdɪti/ *n* [U]

**in-sist** /ɪn'sɪst/ *v* [I (on, upon); T+ (that); obj] 1 to declare firmly, esp. in the face of doubt or opposition: *He insisted on his innocence/on the truth of his story, even though the police refused to believe him.* | *He still insists he wasn't there at the time.* 2 to order or demand (that something must happen or be done): *They are insisting on immediate repayment.* | *I insisted that he (should) go.* | *You must come with us — I insist!* | *All right, I'll do it, if you insist.* (=I don't really want to)

**insist on/upon** sthg. *phr v* [T] to consider very important; place great importance on: *He insists on discipline in the classroom.* [+v-ing] *I insist on having a holiday abroad every year.*

**in-sis-tence** /ɪn'sɪstəns/ *n* [U] 1 the act of insisting: *At the director's insistence* (=because the director insisted) *the new product was kept secret.* | *the government's insistence on a price freeze* 2 also **insistency** /ɪn'sɪstənsi/ — the quality or state of being insistent — compare **PERSISTENT**

**in-sis-tent** /ɪn'sɪstənt/ *adj* 1 [(on, upon)] repeatedly insisting: *The company is insistent on immediate payment.* [F+ (that)] *He's very insistent that he'll finish in time.* 2 needing to be done, answered, or dealt with; urgent: *insistent demands* | *the baby's insistent screams* — *~ly adv*



**in-si-tu** /,ɪn 'sɪtʃuː||,ɪn 'saɪtuː/ *adv* *Lat* in its original place

**in-so-far** /,ɪnsə'fɑːr/ *adv* see **in so far as** (FAR<sup>1</sup> (9))

**in-sole** /'ɪnsəʊl/ *n* a piece of material inside a shoe or boot, shaped to fit the bottom of the foot

**in-so-lent** /'ɪnsələnt/ *adj* showing disrespectful rudeness: *insolent children* | *insolent behaviour* — ~ly *adv* —lence *n* [U]

**in-sol-u-ble** /ɪn'sɒljʊbəl||ɪn'saɪl-/ *adj* 1 to which no answer or explanation is/seems possible: *an insoluble problem* 2 which cannot be dissolved (DISSOLVE (1,2)): *insoluble in water* — compare **INDISSOLUBLE**

**in-sol-va-ble** /ɪn'sɒlvəbəl||ɪn'saɪl-, ɪn'sɔɪl-/ *adj* *esp. AmE* for **INSOLUBLE** (1)

**in-sol-vent** /ɪn'sɒlvənt||ɪn'saɪl-/ *n, adj tech* (a person) not having enough money to pay debts: *an insolvent estate* | *The bank was declared insolvent.* —compare **BANKRUPT**<sup>1</sup> —vency *n* [U]

**in-som-ni-a** /ɪn'sɒmniə||-'sɑɪm-/ *n* [U] habitual inability to sleep

**in-som-ni-ac** /ɪn'sɒmniæk||ɪn'sɑɪm-/ *adj, n* (of or being) a person who habitually cannot sleep, or can sleep only for a short period of the night

**in-so-much** /,ɪnsəʊ'mʌtʃ/ *adv* **insomuch** as to the degree that; *inasmuch* as (**INASMUCH**)

**in-sou-ci-ance** /ɪn'suziəns/ *n* [U] *fml* a cheerful lack of care or worry —ant *adj*

**in-spect** /ɪn'spekt/ *v* [T] 1 to examine (something) closely or in detail, *esp.* in order to judge quality or correctness: *After they had finished building the wall the foreman inspected it to make sure they'd done it properly.* | *Let's go and inspect the damage.* | *Nobody inspected my ticket before I got on the train.* 2 to make an official visit to judge the quality of (an organization, machine, etc.): *The sergeant-major inspects the barracks every day.*

**in-spec-tion** /ɪn'spektʃən/ *n* [C;U] (an act of) inspecting: *I gave the car a thorough inspection before buying it.* | *He thought it was a moth, but on closer inspection it turned out to be a butterfly.* | *an official inspection* | *a tour of inspection*

**in-spec-tor** /ɪn'spektə/ *n* 1 an official who inspects something: *A ticket inspector got on the train.* | *a tax inspector* 2 a police officer of middle rank: *Can I have a word with you, Inspector?* 3 an official who visits schools to advise on and judge the quality of the teaching; an **HMI** — ~ate *n*

**Inspector Morse** /ɪn'spektə 'mɔːs||-tər 'mɔːrs/ a police DETECTIVE in a British television programme. The stories take place in Oxford, and Morse is a clever, highly educated man who finds it difficult to talk to ordinary people. He is helped by Sergeant Lewis, who is younger and understands ordinary people better.

**in-spi-ra-tion** /,ɪnsprɪ'reɪʃən/ *n* 1 [U] the act of inspiring or state of being inspired: *by divine inspiration* 2 [C;U] (for) something or someone which gives a person the urge or the ability to do something, *esp.* to produce works of the imagination: *These events provided the inspiration for her first novel.* | *She was an inspiration to all who knew her.* | *His journey to South America was a source of fresh ideas and inspiration.* 3 [C] a sudden good idea: *to have an inspiration* — ~al *adj*

**in-spire** /ɪn'spaɪə/ *v* [T] 1 [(to)] to encourage in (someone) the desire and ability to take effective action, by filling with eagerness, confidence, etc.: *He tried to inspire them to greater efforts.* [+obj+to-v] *I was inspired to work harder by her example.* 2 to be the force which produces (usu. a good result): *The memory of his mother inspired his best music.* 3 to fill (someone) with (a feeling) by means of one's behaviour or example: [+obj+in] *His driving hardly inspires confidence (in his passengers).* [+obj+with] *His driving hardly inspires his passengers with confidence.* — see also **AWE-INSPIRING**

**in-spired** /ɪn'spaɪəd||-ərd/ *adj* so clever or good as to seem to show inspiration, *esp.* from God: *an inspired guess/performance*

**in-spir-ing** /ɪn'spaɪərɪŋ/ *adj* that gives one the urge or ability to do great things; providing inspiration: *inspiring music/leadership*

**inst** /ɪnst/ *BrE fml, becoming rare* (used after a date in business letters) of this month: *The meeting will be held on the 24th inst.*

**in-sta-bil-i-ty** /,ɪnstə'bɪlɪti/ *n* [U] lack of **STABILITY**; unsteadiness, e.g. in a situation or a person's character, producing a tendency to change suddenly: *He's showing signs of instability — he could be heading for a nervous breakdown.* | *political instability in this region*

**in-stall** /ɪn'stɔːl/ *v* [T (in)] 1 to set (an apparatus) up, ready for use: *We're having central heating installed.* 2 [+obj+adv/prep] *infml* to settle firmly: *Once she's installed herself in front of the fire for the evening you won't get her to move.* 3 to settle (someone) in an official position, *esp.* with ceremony: *The new bishop has been installed.*

**in-stal-la-tion** /,ɪnstə'leɪʃən/ *n* 1 [U] the act of installing or state of being installed: *The installation of the shower only took a few minutes.* | *the installation of a computer in the accounts department* 2 [C] an apparatus in a fixed state ready for use: *new central-heating installations* 3 [C] a military or naval base or fort: *American nuclear installations in Europe*

**installment plan** /-ˈɪ..-/ *n* [(the) U] *AmE* for **HIRE PURCHASE**

**in-stal-ment** *BrE* || **installment** *AmE* /ɪn'stɔːlmənt/ *n* 1 [C] a single part of a book, play, or television show which appears in regular parts until the story is completed: *a play in six instalments* 2 [C] a single payment of a set which, in time, will complete full payment of a debt: *to pay the last instalment of a loan* 3 [U] **INSTALLATION** (1)

**in-stance**<sup>1</sup> /'ɪnstəns/ *n* [(of)] 1 a single fact, event, etc., expressing a general idea; example; case: *There have been several instances of terrorists planting bombs in the city.* | *I usually support people who take such actions, but in this instance I have to condemn them.* 2 at someone's instance *fml* because of someone's wish 3 for instance for example: *You can't rely on her: for instance, she arrived an hour late for an important meeting yesterday.* — see also **in the first instance** (**FIRST**)

**instance**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T] *fml* to give as an example: *As one example of what I mean about youth today, let me instance the growing rate of vandalism.*

**in-stant**<sup>1</sup> /'ɪnstənt/ *n* 1 [*usu. sing.*] a moment of time: *I'll be back in an instant.* | **Not for an instant** (=not at all) *did I believe he had lied.* 2 (at) the instant as soon as: (At) the instant I saw him I knew he was the man the police were looking for.

**instant**<sup>2</sup> *adj* 1 happening or produced at once: *I took an instant dislike to him.* | *At the turn of a tap you get instant hot water.* | *an instant success* 2 (of food) which can be very quickly prepared for use: *instant coffee/mashed potato* (=coffee/potato in powder form that needs only the addition of boiling water)

► **CULTURAL NOTE** Many people consider instant food and drinks to be of poor quality and often make excuses when offering them: *Would you like a coffee? I'm afraid I've only got instant.* —see also **INSTANTLY** ◀

**in-stan-ta-ne-ous** /,ɪnstən'teɪniəs/ *adj* happening at once: *She accidentally swallowed the poison and death was instantaneous.* | *an instantaneous reaction* — ~ly *adv* — ~ness *n* [U]

**in-stant-ly** /'ɪnstəntli/ *adv* at once: *The police came to my help instantly.*

**instant re-play** /,ɪ.. 'ɪ../ *n* *AmE* for **ACTION REPLAY**

**in-stead** /ɪn'sted/ *adv* 1 in place of that: *It's too wet to go for a walk; let's go swimming instead.* | *If you don't want to go, I'll go instead.* 2 instead of in place of: *You should be working instead of lying there in bed.* | *Will you go to the meeting instead of me?*

**in-step** /'ɪnstɛp/ *n* 1 the upper surface of the foot between the toes and the ankle —see picture at **FOOT** 2 the part of a shoe, sock, etc., which covers the instep —see picture at **SHOE**

**in-sti-gate** /'ɪnstɪgeɪt/ *v* [T] *fml* 1 to start (something happening) by one's action; be responsible for starting: *The police have instigated a search for the missing boy.* | *to instigate criminal proceedings* 2 [+obj+to-v] to cause (someone else) to act *usu.* wrongly, *esp.* by forceful speech; **INCITE** —gator *n* *usu. derog*: *the instigators of all this unrest* —gation /,ɪnstɪ'geɪʃən/ *n* [U]: *He did it at my instigation.* (=I told him to or suggested that he should)

**in-stil** *BrE* || **instill** *AmE* /ɪn'stɪl/ *v* -ll- [T (in, into)] to put (ideas, feelings, etc.) gradually but firmly into someone's mind by a continuous effort: *We instilled the need for discipline and obedience into the new recruits.* —stillation /,ɪnstɪ'leɪʃən/ *n* [U]



**in-stinct** /'ɪnstɪŋkt/ *n* [C;U] (a) natural ability or tendency to act in a certain way, without having to learn or think about it: *the nest-building instinct in birds* | *Don't ask me; follow/trust your instincts and do what you think is right.* | *an instinct for survival* [+to-v] *Lions have an instinct to hunt.* —compare INTUITION

**in-stinc-tive** /ɪn'stɪŋktɪv/ *adj* resulting from instinct: *instinctive behaviour* | *an instinctive dislike of extreme political opinions* | *an instinctive mistrust of strangers* — ~ly *adv*: *Instinctively, I knew she was ill.* | *He ducked instinctively as the bullet whistled past his head.*

**in-sti-tute**<sup>1</sup> /'ɪnstɪtju:t/-tu:t/ *n* a society or organization formed to do special work or for a special purpose: *a research institute*

**institute**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T] *fml* to set up (a society, rules, actions in law, etc.) for the first time: *The police have instituted legal proceedings against her.*

**Institute of Di-rec-tors** /ɪ... -'dɔː-/ [the] a British organization for businessmen

**institute of ed-u-ca-tion** /ɪ... -'edʒən/ *n* (often caps.) a teacher training institution in England and Wales

**in-sti-tu-tion** /ɪnstɪ'tjuːʃən/-'tuː-/ *n* 1 [C] a habit, custom, etc., which has been in existence for a long time: *the institution of marriage* **b** *infml*, often humor a person who has been seen in the same place and/or doing the same thing for a long time: *That old man in the park is a regular institution.* 2 [C] (a large building for) an organization, usu. a long-established or well-respected one: *the big City institutions* (=the banks and other companies in the City of London that deal with money) | *The Royal Institution is a British organization for scientists.* 3 [C] *euph* for MENTAL HOSPITAL: *He went rather strange and had to be put into an institution.* 4 [C] *derog* a place where a lot of people live, usu. in the care of an official organization, such as a children's or old people's HOME (4): *I could never put my mother into an institution — she'd hate it.* 5 [U] the act of instituting: *the institution of a new law* — ~al *adj*: *institutional food*

**in-sti-tu-tion-al-ize** also -ise *BrE* /ɪnstɪ'tjuːʃənəlaɪz/-'tuː-/ *v* [T] 1 to cause to become an INSTITUTION (1a): *inefficient practices that have been allowed to become institutionalized* | *They described corporal punishment in schools as "institutionalized violence".* 2 *euph* to put into an INSTITUTION (3,4) 3 [*usu. pass.*] to cause or allow (a person) to gradually begin to behave in the way that people behave when they are kept in a prison, hospital, etc., for a long time: *After 20 years in prison, he had become so institutionalized that he was completely unable to adapt to life outside.*

**in-store** /ɪn'stɔː-/ *adj* operating, or in use, within a large DEPARTMENT STORE: *an instore detective*

**in-struct** /ɪn'strʌkt/ *v* [T] 1 [+obj+to-v] to give orders or directions to, esp. with the right or expectation of being obeyed: *I've been instructed to wait here until the teacher arrives.* | *I am instructed* (=I have been told) *to inform you that the minister is not willing to make a statement.* | *The union issued an order instructing its members not to work overtime.* 2 [(in)] to give knowledge or information (usu. of something practical) to: *The sergeant was instructing the soldiers (in how to do the drill).* —see TEACH (USAGE) 3 [+obj+that; *usu. pass.*] law to advise or inform officially: *I have been instructed that the defendant is unwell, and I therefore adjourn the case.* 4 law to employ (a lawyer) to handle a case in court —see ORDER (USAGE)

**in-struc-tion** /ɪn'strʌkʃən/ *n* 1 [C often pl.] an order: *You must obey my instruction.* | *to give someone instructions* [+to-v] *I have instructions not to let anyone in.* [(+that)] *My instructions are that I must not let anyone in.* —see also INSTRUCTIONS 2 [U] the act of instructing; teaching: *He's not trained yet; he's still under instruction.* (=being instructed) | *an instruction manual* — ~al *adj*

**in-struc-tions** /ɪn'strʌkʃənz/ *n* [P] advice on how to do something: *I didn't follow the instructions printed on the box, and broke the machine.*

**instruction set** /ɪ... -sɛt/ *n* the complete set of instructions that a computer understands, each instruction controlling one operation in the MICROPROCESSOR

**in-struc-tive** /ɪn'strʌktɪv/ *adj* (not of a person) giving useful information that increases knowledge or understanding: *a most instructive lecture/visit* — ~ly *adv*

**in-struc-tor** /ɪn'strʌktə-/ *n* 1 a person who teaches, esp. a

physical, practical, or scientific activity: *a swimming/driving instructor* —see also SKI INSTRUCTOR 2 *AmE* a person who teaches a subject, esp. in a college or university: *a social studies instructor*

**in-stru-ment** /'ɪnstrʊmənt/ *n* 1 an object used to help in work, esp. in work where exact detail and measurements are necessary, such as medicine and science: *The pilot studied his instruments* (=ALTIMETER, FUEL GAUGE, etc.) *anxiously.* | *surgical instruments* | *an instrument of torture* 2 also **musical instrument**— an object, such as a piano, horn, drum, etc., played to give musical sounds —see also STRINGED INSTRUMENT, WIND INSTRUMENT 3 [(of)] *esp. lit* someone or something which seems to be used by an outside force to cause something to happen: *an instrument of fate*

▷ **USAGE** An **instrument** is a man-made tool, usually without power, used in science or art. A microscope, a compass, and a thermometer are examples of **instruments**. A piano, an organ, and a violin are examples of (**musical**) **instruments**. —see also MACHINE (USAGE)◁

**in-stru-men-tal** /ɪnstrʊ'mentl-/ *adj* 1 [*no comp.*] (of music) for instruments, not voices: *an instrumental work* 2 [F+(in)] *fml* helpful (in); being (part of) the cause of: *He/His information was instrumental in catching the criminal.*

**in-stru-men-tal-ist** /ɪnstrʊ'mentəlɪst/ *n* a person who plays a musical instrument, esp. with a group of singers —compare VOCALIST

**in-stru-men-ta-tion** /ɪnstrʊ'men'teɪʃən/ *n* [U] 1 the way in which a piece of music is arranged for the different instruments of a band —compare ORCHESTRATE 2 a set of instruments, esp. to help in controlling a machine: *the complex instrumentation in an aircraft's cockpit*

**instrument fly-ing** /ɪ... -ɪŋ/ *n* [U] flying an aircraft on a course using instruments only, e.g. at night or in thick cloud when the pilot cannot see ahead

**instrument land-ing** /ɪ... -ɪŋ/ *n* a landing in an aircraft, using instruments and RADAR only, e.g. in bad weather

**instrument pan-el** /ɪ... -pænl/ *n* a board on which instruments are set, esp. in an aircraft; DASHBOARD

**in-sub-or-di-nate** /ɪnsə'bɔːdɪnət/-ɔːr-/ *adj derog* (of a person of lower rank or their behaviour) intentionally disobedient; not showing willingness to take orders — ~ly *adv* — **nation** /ɪnsə'bɔːdɪneɪʃən/-ɔːr-/ *n* [U]: *The captain will not tolerate any insubordination.*

**in-sub-stan-tial** /ɪnsə'bstænʃəl-/ *adj* 1 *derog* lacking firmness or solidity; weak or unsatisfying: *an insubstantial meal* 2 lacking substance or material nature; without material reality

**in-suf-fe-ra-ble** /ɪn'sʌfərəbəl/ *adj* unbearable (in behaviour) esp. because too proud in manner; INTOLERABLE: *your insufferable little brother* | *insufferable rudeness* | *He's absolutely insufferable!* —bly *adv*

**in-suf-fi-cient** /ɪnsə'fɪʃənt-/ *adj* [(for)] (esp. of power, money, or RESOURCES) not enough: *The food was insufficient for our needs.* | *cancelled due to insufficient interest/funds* [+to-v] *There was insufficient food to feed everyone.* — ~ly *adv* — **ciency** *n* [S;U (of)] *fml*: *an insufficiency of money*

**in-su-lar** /'ɪnsjʊlə-/ *adj* 1 *derog* narrow (in mind); interested only or mainly in one's own group, country, etc.: *an insular outlook* | *Don't be so insular!* —compare PAROCHIAL (2) 2 [*no comp.*] of or like an island — ~ity /ɪnsjʊ'lærɪti/-sə-, -fə-/ *n* [U]: *the insularity of the British*

**in-su-late** /'ɪnsjʊleɪt/ *v* [T (from, against)] 1 to cover (something) so as to prevent electricity, heat, sound, etc., from getting out or in: *Many houses could be warmer if they were insulated against heat loss.* | *She covered the bare wires with insulating tape to make them safe.* 2 to protect (a person) from ordinary experiences: *The royal family is insulated from many of the difficulties faced by ordinary people.* —compare ISOLATE

**in-su-la-tion** /ɪnsjʊ'leɪʃən/ *n* [U] 1 (esp. in relation to a house) the action of insulating or the state of being insulated: *Insulation can save on heating bills.* | *a house with good insulation* 2 material which insulates: *Glass fibre is sometimes used as insulation for water tanks.*

**in-su-la-tor** /'ɪnsjʊleɪtə-/ *n* an object or material



which insulates, esp. one which does not allow electricity to pass through it

**in-su-lin** /'ɪnsjʊlɪn/ *n* [U] a substance produced naturally in the body which allows sugar to be used for ENERGY. People with DIABETES often need to take extra insulin into their bodies because their bodies do not produce enough.

**in-sult**<sup>1</sup> /ɪn'sʌlt/ *v* [T] to be rude to or treat with lack of respect; offend: *You will insult her if you don't go to her party.* | *This book insults the reader's intelligence.* (=treats them as if they were stupid) | *an insulting remark* | *insulting behaviour*

**in-sult**<sup>2</sup> /'ɪnsʌlt/ *n* [(to)] a rude or offensive remark or action: *He shouted/hurled insults at the boy who had kicked him.* | *His refusal to attend the memorial service is an insult to the memory of our brave soldiers.* —see also **add insult to injury** (ADD)

**in-su-pe-ra-ble** /ɪn'sju:pərəbəl/ *adj* (of something in one's way) which is too difficult to be defeated or passed: *insuperable difficulties* —compare INSURMOUNTABLE —**bly** *adv*

**in-sup-por-ta-ble** /ɪnsə'pɔ:təbəl/ *adj* *fml* unbearable (because bad): *insupportable behaviour/pain*

**in-sur-ance** /ɪn'fʊərəns/ *n* **1** [U (against)] agreement by contract to pay money to someone if something, esp. a misfortune, such as illness, death, or an accident, happens to them: *All drivers in Britain must have third-party insurance.* | *Does your insurance cover damage by flooding?* | *a well-known insurance company* | *to take out (life) insurance* **2** [U (on)] money paid to an insurance company in order to make or keep such a contract: *The insurance on my house is very high.* | *a crippling insurance premium* **3** [U] the business of making this type of contract and providing such payments: *She works in insurance.* **4** [S;U (against)] protection: *I bought some new locks as an additional insurance against burglary.* —see also ASSURANCE, NATIONAL INSURANCE —**able** *adj*: *an insurable risk*

**insurance broker** /'ɪnʃʊərəns brəʊkə/ also **insurance agent** *n* a person who arranges different kinds of insurance for other people and who receives payment for doing it

**insurance poli-cy** /'ɪnʃʊərəns paɪli/ *n* a POLICY<sup>2</sup>: (fig.) *Are nuclear weapons a credible insurance policy against attack?*

**in-sure** /ɪn'fʊə/ *v* [T] **1** [(against)] to protect (someone or something) by insurance, esp. against loss of money, life, goods, etc.: *My house is insured against fire.* | *Are you insured for all risks?* **2** *esp. AmE* for ENSURE

▷ USAGE Compare **insure**, **ensure**, **assure**, and **reassure**. **1** You usually **insure** against future misfortune by paying money to an **insurance** company: *fire insurance*. But it is possible to **insure/assure** (*BrE, tech*) against death: *life insurance AmE/assurance BrE*. **2** **Ensure** means "to make sure that something happens": *Please ensure that the lights are switched off before leaving the building.* **3** If you **assure** a person of something you promise them or tell them that something will happen: *The doctor assured me that I would get better.* But when followed by an abstract noun, **assure** is like **ensure**: *Weeks of practice assured/ensured success in the match.* **4** **Reassure** means "to comfort someone who is anxious": *I was feeling worried about the exam, but the teacher reassured me.* ◁

**in-sured** /ɪn'fʊəd/ *n* **insured** [*the*+C] an insured person: *If the camera is stolen the insured receives a sum of money.*

**in-sur-er** /ɪn'fʊərə/ *n* a person or company that provides insurance: *If the camera is stolen the insurer will pay a sum of money.*

**in-sur-gent** /ɪn'sɜ:dʒənt/ *n* [often *pl.*] a person who is not an official soldier but is fighting against those in power, usu. in his or her own country: *The insurgents are gaining strength/gathering in the north of the country.* —compare GUERRILLA; see also COUNTERINSURGENCY —**insurgent** *adj*: *insurgent forces* —**gency** *n* [C;U]

**in-sur-moun-ta-ble** /ɪnsə'maʊntəbəl/ *adj* too large, difficult, etc., to be dealt with: *insurmountable problems/obstacles* —compare INSUPERABLE

**in-sur-rec-tion** /ɪnsə'rekʃən/ *n* [C;U] (an act of) opposing by force and trying to defeat the people who have power, such as the government —**ist** *n*

**in-tact** /ɪn'tækt/ *adj* whole because no part has been touched, spoilt, or broken: *The fragile parcel arrived intact.* | (fig.) *Somehow his reputation survived the scandal intact.*

**in-ta-gli-o** /ɪn'tæ:liəʊ/ *n* -glios [C;U] (the result of) the art of making a picture, decoration, etc., by cutting a pattern deeply into the surface of a hard substance, esp. a jewel

**in-take** /'ɪnteɪk/ *n* **1** [S (of)] the amount or number allowed to enter or taken in: *If you want to lose weight, you should reduce your intake of fat and alcohol.* | *this year's intake of students* **2** [C] an opening in a tube, pipe, etc., where air, gas, or liquid is taken in: *the air intakes of a jet engine*

**in-tan-gi-ble** /ɪn'tændʒəbəl/ *adj* **1** which by its nature cannot be known by the senses or described, though it can be felt: *an intangible quality* | *As soon as we entered the house, we felt an intangible sense of gloom and hopelessness.* **2** which is hidden or not material, but known to be real: *intangible assets* (=things belonging to a business which are not material, such as the loyalty of its customers) —**bly** *adv* —**bility** /ɪn'tændʒə'bɪləti/ *n* [U]

**in-te-ger** /'ɪntɪdʒə/ *n* a whole number: *6 is an integer, but 6½ is not.* —compare DECIMAL<sup>2</sup>

**in-te-gral** /'ɪntɪgrəl/ *adj* [(to)] necessary (to complete something); which cannot be left out: *an integral part of the argument/of our defence strategy* | *She is our best player, and is integral to our team.*

**integral cal-cu-lus** /ɪntɪ'grəl kəl'kjʊləs/ *n* [U] (in MATHEMATICS) a way of measuring the distance which a moving object has covered at a particular moment; one of the two ways of making calculations about quantities which are continually changing —compare DIFFERENTIAL CALCULUS

**in-te-grate** /'ɪntɪgreɪt/ *v* [(with, into)] **1** [I;T] to join or cause (a member of a social group) to join in society as a whole; (cause to) spend time with members of other groups and develop habits like theirs: *Not all foreign immigrants want to integrate (with us/into our society).* | *It is difficult to integrate released prisoners back into society.* **2** [T] *rather fml* to join to something else so as to form a whole: *Many schools are now integrating computer programs into the curriculum.* —**gration** /ɪntɪ'greɪʃən/ *n* [U]: *racial integration*

**in-te-grat-ed** /'ɪntɪgreɪtɪd/ *adj* (often in *comb.*) showing a usu. pleasing mixture of qualities, groups, etc.: *an integrated school with children of different races and social classes* | (well-) *integrated characters* | *a poorly-/badly-integrated person* (=who is not calm or happy and gets on badly with other people)

**integrated cir-cuit** /ɪntɪ'greɪtɪd ˈsɪrkuɪt/ *n* a very small set of electrical connections printed on a single piece of SEMICONDUCTOR material, such as a CHIP<sup>1</sup> (6). Integrated circuits are important for electrical equipment because they are small, easily made, and unlikely to develop faults.

**in-teg-ri-ty** /ɪn'tegrɪti/ *n* [U] **1** *apprec* strength and firmness of character or principle; honesty; trustworthiness: *a man of complete integrity* **2** *fml* a state of being whole and undivided; completeness: *Our integrity as a nation is threatened by these separatist forces.*

**in-teg-u-ment** /ɪn'tegjʊmənt/ *n* *tech* an outer covering, such as a shell, the skin of a fruit, etc.

**in-tel-lect** /'ɪntɪlekt/ *n* **1** [C;U] the ability to use the power of reason (rather than to feel or take action); ability to think intelligently and understand: *a woman of superior intellect* **2** [C] someone with a great intellect —see INTELLIGENT (USAGE)

**in-tel-lec-tual**<sup>1</sup> /ɪntɪ'lektʃuəl/ *adj* **1** of, using, or needing the use of the intellect: *intellectual topics* | *The argument was too intellectual for me; I couldn't follow a word of it.* | *an intellectual film* | *an intellectual giant* (=an extremely clever person) **2** having a high intellect: *an intellectual family* —see INTELLIGENT (USAGE) —**ly** *adv*: *intellectually unsatisfactory* | *Intellectually speaking, it's a very weak piece of work.* —**ize** *v* [I;T]

**intellectual**<sup>2</sup> *n* someone who has the ability to reason well, and (often) who uses this ability in their work —see INTELLIGENT (USAGE)

**intellectual prop-er-ty** /ɪntɪ'lektʃuəl prɒpə'ti/ *n* [U] anything which a person has invented or has the only right to make or sell, e.g. something protected by COPYRIGHT or by a TRADEMARK

**in-tel-li-gence** /ɪn'telɪdʒəns/ *n* [U] **1** (good) ability to learn, reason, and understand: *a boy of low intelligence* (=not



very clever) | *Use your intelligence!* (=don't be so foolish) | *an intelligence test* —see also ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE **2** [+sing./pl. v] (sometimes cap.) (a group of people who gather) information, esp. about an enemy country: *He works in intelligence.* | *Our intelligence reports indicate that rebel groups are planning an attack.* | *military intelligence* | *Our intelligence is that the spies plan to leave the country soon.* —see also CIA, MI5, MI6

**intelligence gath-er-ing** /-ˈ... ɪ.../ *n* [U] the finding out of military, political, or industrial information about another country or organization. Modern methods include the use of SATELLITES, LISTENING DEVICES, and COMPUTER ANALYSIS.

**intelligence quo-tient** /-ˈ... ɪ.../ *n* see IQ

**intelligence test** /-ˈ... ɪ.../ also **IQ test**— *n* a test which is supposed to show how clever a person is, formerly given to all school children —see also IQ

**in-tel-li-gent** /ɪnˈtelɪdʒənt/ *adj* having or showing powers of learning, reasoning, or understanding, esp. to a high degree: *Human beings are much more intelligent than animals.* | *an intelligent suggestion* | *The collie is an intelligent dog, easily trained to control sheep.* — *~ly adv*

▷ **USAGE 1** Compare **intelligent** *adj*, **intellectual** *n/adj*, and **intellect** *n*. An **intelligent** person is someone with a quick and clever mind, but an **intellectual** (person) is someone who is well-educated and interested in subjects which need long periods of study. A small child, or even a dog, can be **intelligent** but cannot be called an **intellectual**. In British English, **intellectual** may suggest a person who looks down on others less clever than themselves. In American English, **intellectual** does not generally have this negative association. **2** When used to mean a person, **intellect** suggests someone who has a very good brain, but perhaps not much practical ability: *I'm sure he's a real intellect, but he'd be nowhere without his wife.* —see also CLEVER (**USAGE**)<

**in-tel-li-gent-si-a** /ɪnˈtelɪdʒəntsɪə/ *n* [(the) S+sing./pl. v] the people in society who are highly educated and often concern themselves with ideas and new developments, esp. in art or politics: *leading members of the intelligentsia*

**in-tel-li-gi-ble** /ɪnˈtelɪdʒɪbəl/ *adj* [(to)] (esp. of speech or writing) which can be understood: *His argument was so confused that it was barely intelligible.* | *This report would be intelligible only to an expert in computing.* —opposite **unintelligible**; compare ARTICULATE<sup>1</sup> —**bly adv** —**bility** /ɪnˈtelɪdʒɪˈbɪlɪti/ *n* [U]

**in-tem-per-ate** /ɪnˈtempərət/ *adj fml* (of a person or their behaviour) not keeping within the usual limits, esp. of drinking alcohol: *intemperate habit* | *The decision was made with intemperate haste.* — *~ly adv* —**ance** *n* [U]

**in-tend** /ɪnˈtend/ *v* [T] **1** to have in one's mind as a plan or purpose; mean (to do): *He took it as an insult, which wasn't at all what I had intended.* [+to-v] *She intended to catch the early train, but she didn't get up in time.* | *I intend to report you to the police.* [+obj+to-v] *It was meant to be a surprise; I didn't intend you to see it so soon.* [+ (that)] (*fml*) *We do not intend that they should know at this stage.* **2** [obj; usu. pass.] to have a plan for (something) in one's mind: [+obj+for, as] *The chair was intended for you, but she took it away.* | *That remark was intended as a joke.* | *The book is intended for young adults in their first year of learning English.* [+obj+to-v] *It was intended to be cooked slowly.*

**in-tend-ed** /ɪnˈtendɪd/ *n* [usu. sing.] old use or humor someone's future husband or wife: *Let me introduce my intended.*

**in-tense** /ɪnˈtens/ *adj* **1** strong or great, esp. in quality or feeling; extreme: *There was intense competition between the rival companies to get the contract.* | *intense heat/pain* | *intense hatred* **2** having feelings or opinions which are (too) strong, serious, etc.: *I find her exhausting to be with — she's too intense.* | *an intense young man who takes life too seriously.* — *~ly adv* —**tensity** *n* [U]: *The poem showed great intensity of feeling.* | *the intensity of the light*

**in-ten-si-fi-er** /ɪnˈtensɪfaɪər/ *n tech* a word, usu. an adverb, that is used to add stronger feeling to the meaning of an adjective, verb, or adverb (for example, **absolutely** in *That's absolutely wonderful* and *I absolutely disagree*)

**in-ten-si-fy** /ɪnˈtensɪfaɪ/ *v* [I;T] to (cause to) become more intense: *The strong wind seemed to intensify the cold.* |

*Efforts to reach the injured men have been intensified because of a sudden deterioration in weather conditions.* —**ification** /ɪnˈtensɪfɪˈkeɪʃən/ *n* [U]: *The intensification of the industrial dispute has caused alarm in government circles.*

**in-ten-sive** /ɪnˈtensɪv/ *adj* **1** giving a lot of attention or action to a small amount of something or in a small amount of time; CONCENTRATED: *intensive study* | *Intensive efforts are being made to resolve the dispute.* | *an intensive course in English* **2** -intensive using or needing a lot of the stated thing: *disk-intensive computer operations* —see also CAPITAL-INTENSIVE, LABOUR-INTENSIVE —*~ly adv*

**intensive care** /-ˈ... ɪ.../ *n* [U] a department in a hospital which gives special attention and treatment to people who are very seriously ill or hurt: *He's in/out of intensive care.* | *the intensive care unit*

**in-tent<sup>1</sup>** /ɪnˈtent/ *n* [(with) U] **1** (the stated) purpose or intention: *She behaved foolishly but with good intent.* **2** law intending to do something bad: *The policemen arrested him for loitering with intent.* [+to-v] *The court has to decide if he entered the building with intent to steal.* **3** to/for all intents (and purposes) in almost every way; very nearly: *The work is, to all intents and purposes, finished.*

**intent<sup>2</sup>** *adj* **1** [(on, upon)] showing fixed or eager attention (in doing or wishing to do): *an intent stare* | *intent on her work* **2** [F+on] having a determined intention: *He's intent on going to France to continue his studies.* —*~ly adv* —**ness** *n* [U]

**in-ten-tion** /ɪnˈtenʃən/ *n* [C;U] **1** a plan which one has; purpose: *She felt offended at my remarks, but it wasn't my intention to hurt her.* | *I had no intention of changing (=did not intend to change) my mind.* | *He's full of good intentions, but can't really do anything to help.* | (*old-fash*) *I hope your intentions are honourable, young man.* (=that you intend to marry the woman you have expressed your love to) **2** -intentioned /ɪnˈtenʃənd/ having or showing intentions of the stated type: *a well-intentioned effort*

**in-ten-tion-al** /ɪnˈtenʃənəl/ *adj* (esp. of something bad) done on purpose; DELIBERATE: *an intentional insult* | *His exclusion from the meeting was quite intentional.* —opposite **unintentional** —*~ly adv*

**in-ter** /ɪnˈtɜːr/ *v* -**rr-** [T] *fml* to bury (a dead person) —opposite **disinter**; see also INTERMENT

**inter-** see WORD FORMATION

**in-ter-act** /ɪntərˈækt/ *v* [I (with)] **1** to have an effect on each other or something else by being or working close together: *The two ideas interact.* **2** talk to people easily in a social situation: *Our son has difficulty interacting with other children.* | *She interacts very well with older people.* — **~ion** /ɪntərˈækʃən/ *n* [C;U (between, with)]: *There should be a lot more interaction between the social services and local doctors.*

**in-ter-act-ive** /ɪntərˈæktɪv/ *adj* **1** that interacts **2** of or for the exchange of information between a computer and a user while a PROGRAM is in operation: *interactive educational software* —compare BATCH PROCESSING —*~ly adv*

**in-ter a-li-a** /ɪntər ˈeɪliə, -ˈæliə/ *adv Lat fml* among other things: *Our success depends, inter alia, on the number of trained people we can employ.*

**in-ter-breed** /ɪntərˈbriːd/ -**er-** *v* -**bred** /ˈbred/ [I (with);T] to (cause to) produce young from parents of different breeds, groups, etc.: *Can lions and tigers interbreed?* —compare CROSSBREED<sup>2</sup>, INBREEDING

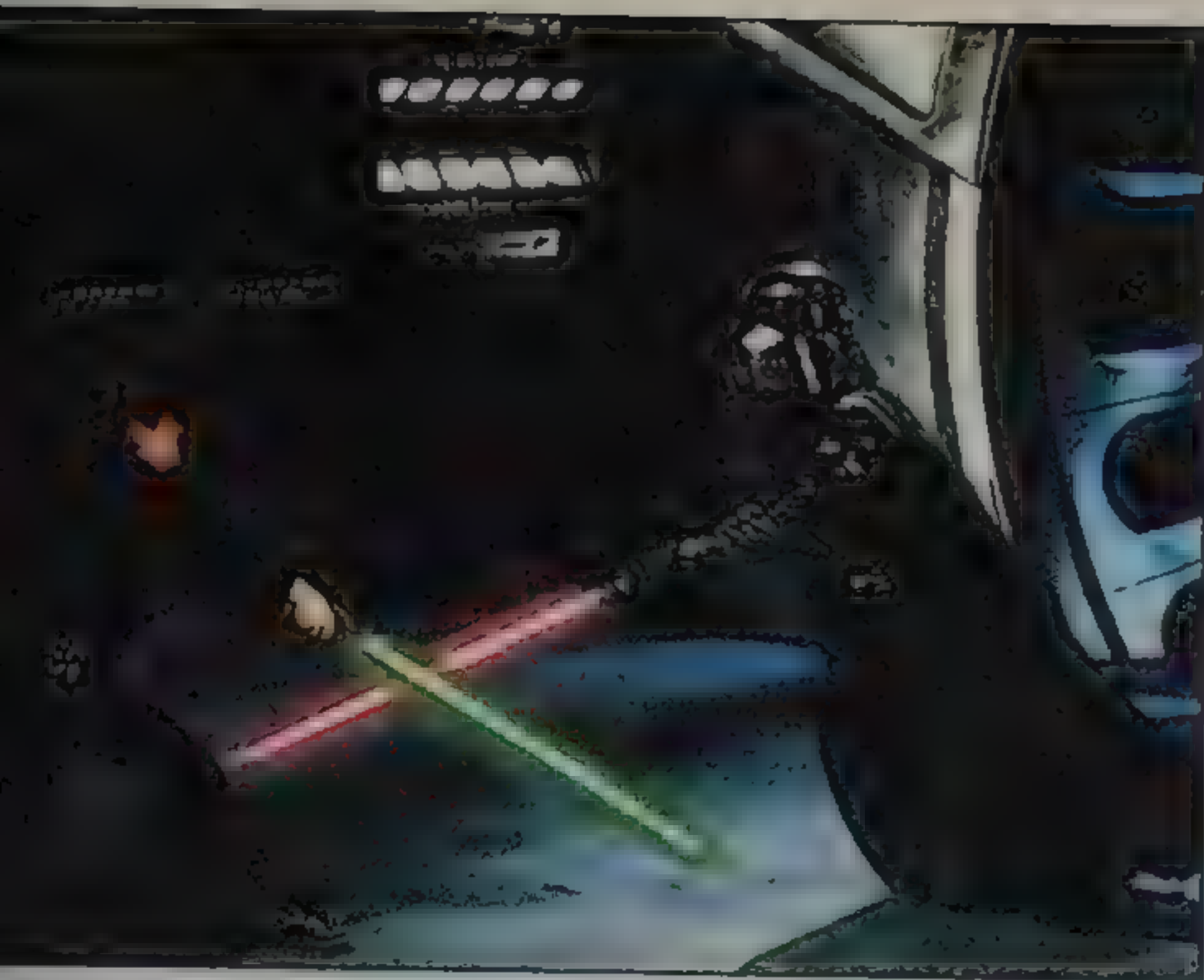
**in-ter-cede** /ɪntərˈsiːd/ -**er-** *v* [I (with, for)] to speak in favour of someone, esp. in order to save them from punishment: *I was saved because he interceded with the governor for me/on my behalf.* —see also INTERCESSION

**in-ter-cept** /ɪntərˈsept/ -**er-** *v* [T] to stop and usu. catch or destroy (someone or something moving from one place to another): *We intercepted and decoded a secret message from their embassy.* | *See if you can intercept her before she gets here.* — **~ion** /ɪntərˈseptʃən/ *n* [C;U]

**in-ter-cep-tor** /ɪntərˈseptər/ -**tər-** *n* a light fast military aircraft

**in-ter-ces-sion** /ɪntərˈseʃən/ -**tər-** *n* **1** [U (with)] the act of interceding: *intercession with the governor on her behalf* **2** [C;U] a prayer which asks for other people to be helped, cured, etc.





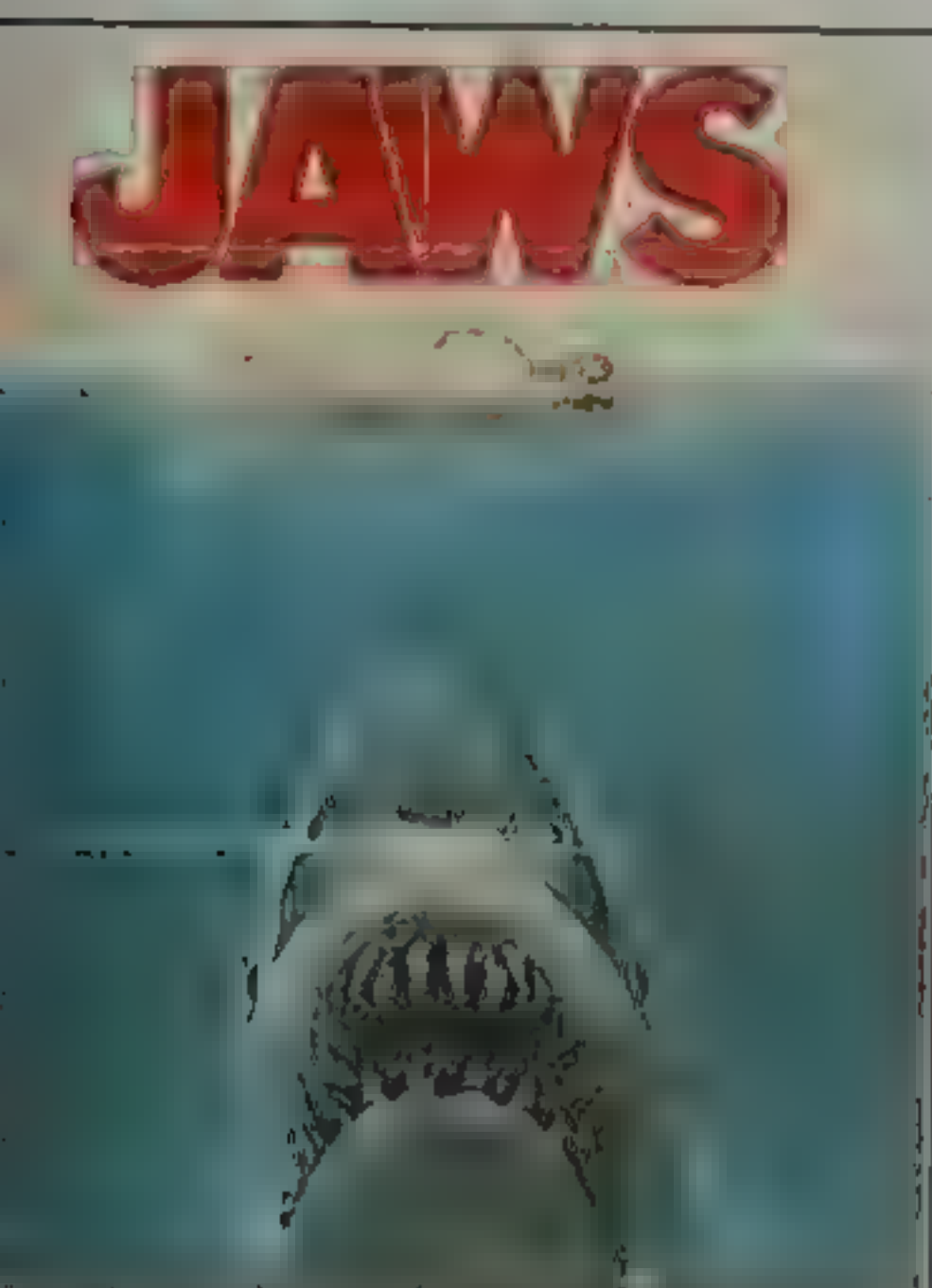
The characters Darth Vader and Luke Skywalker from *Star Wars III*



Clint Eastwood in *A Fistful of Dollars*



Julie Andrews in *The Sound of Music*



*Jaws*



Humphrey Bogart and Ingrid Bergman in *Casablanca*



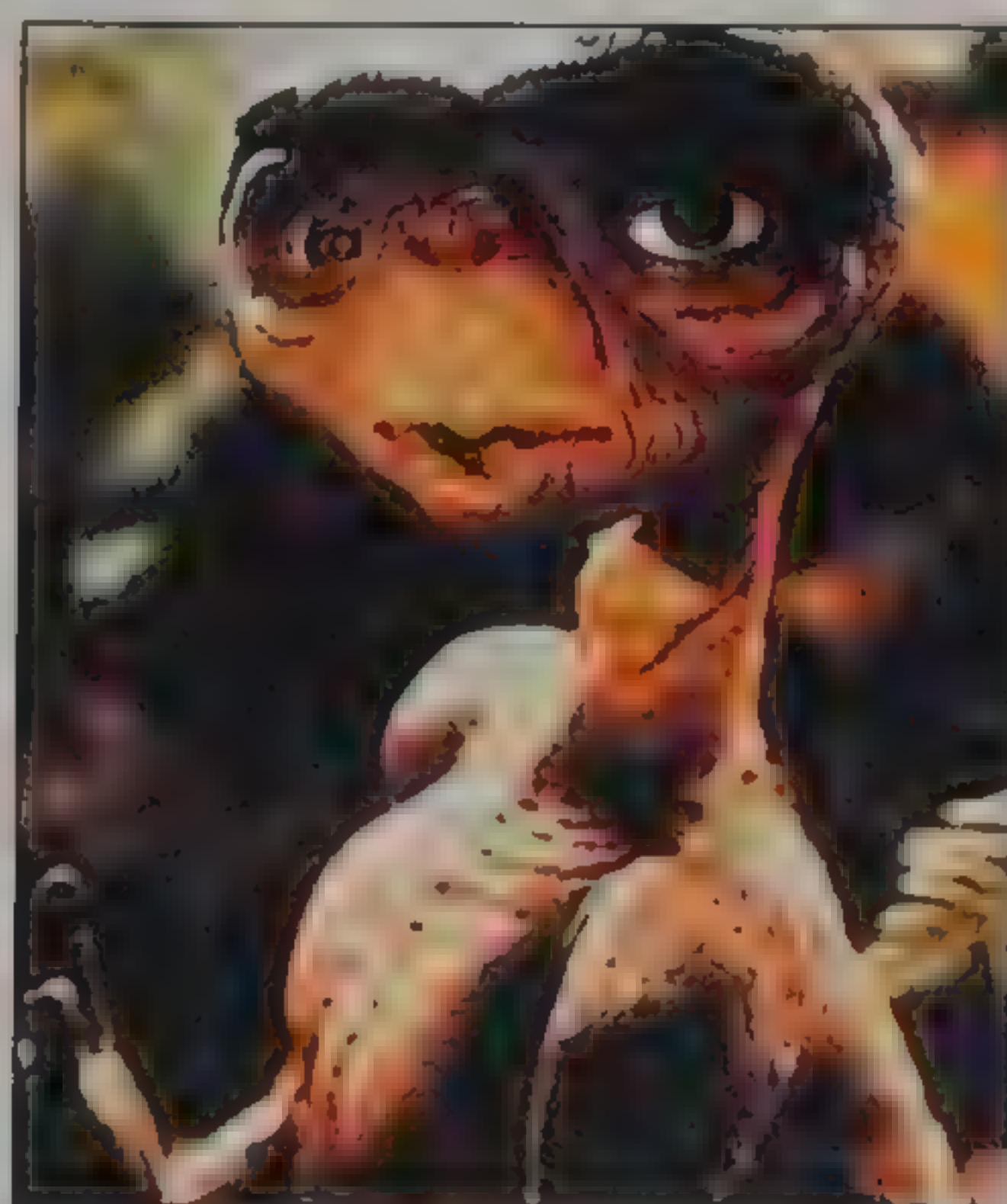
Gene Kelly in *Singin' in the Rain*



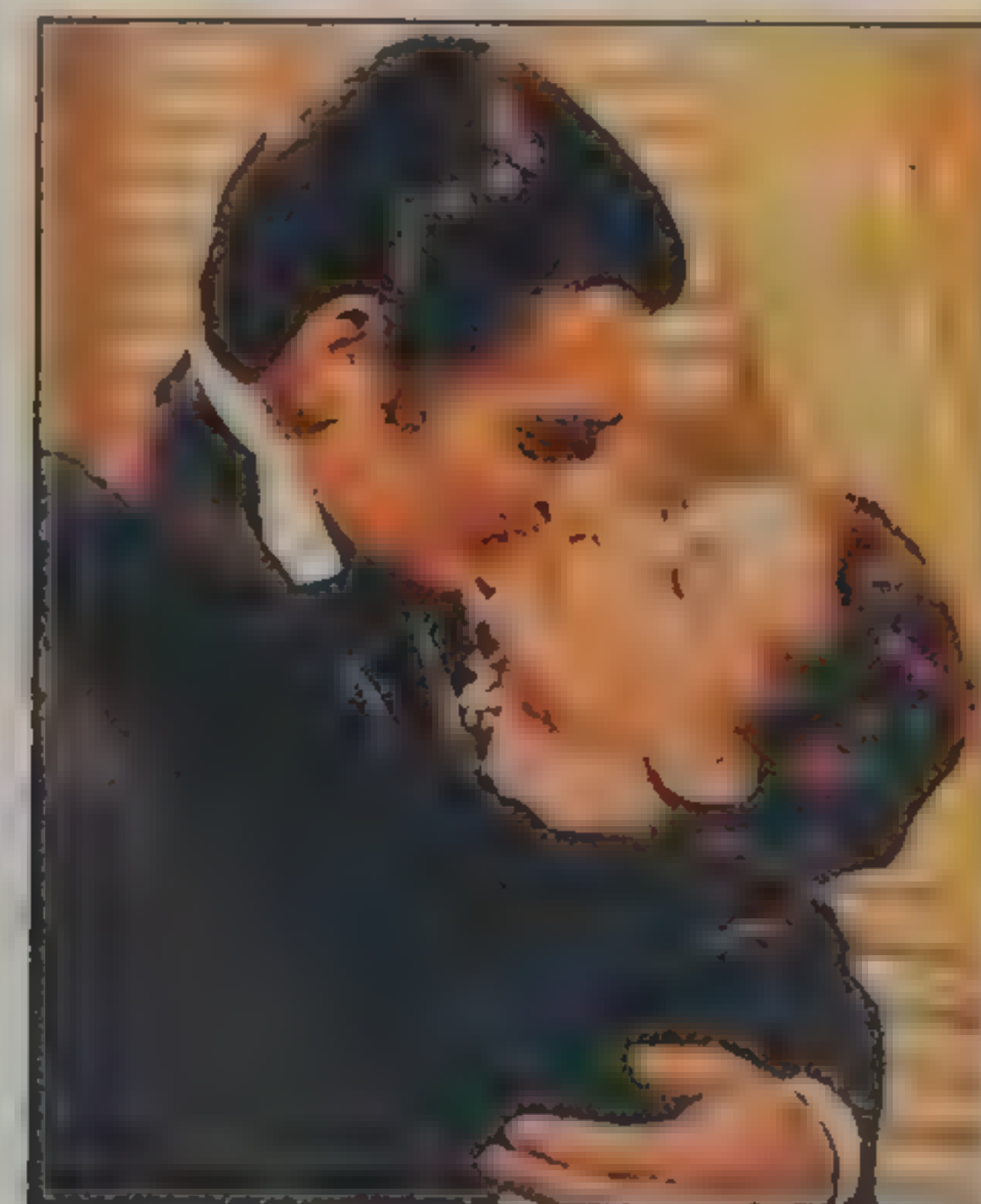
Sylvester Stallone as *Rocky*



Judy Garland in *The Wizard of Oz*



*ET*



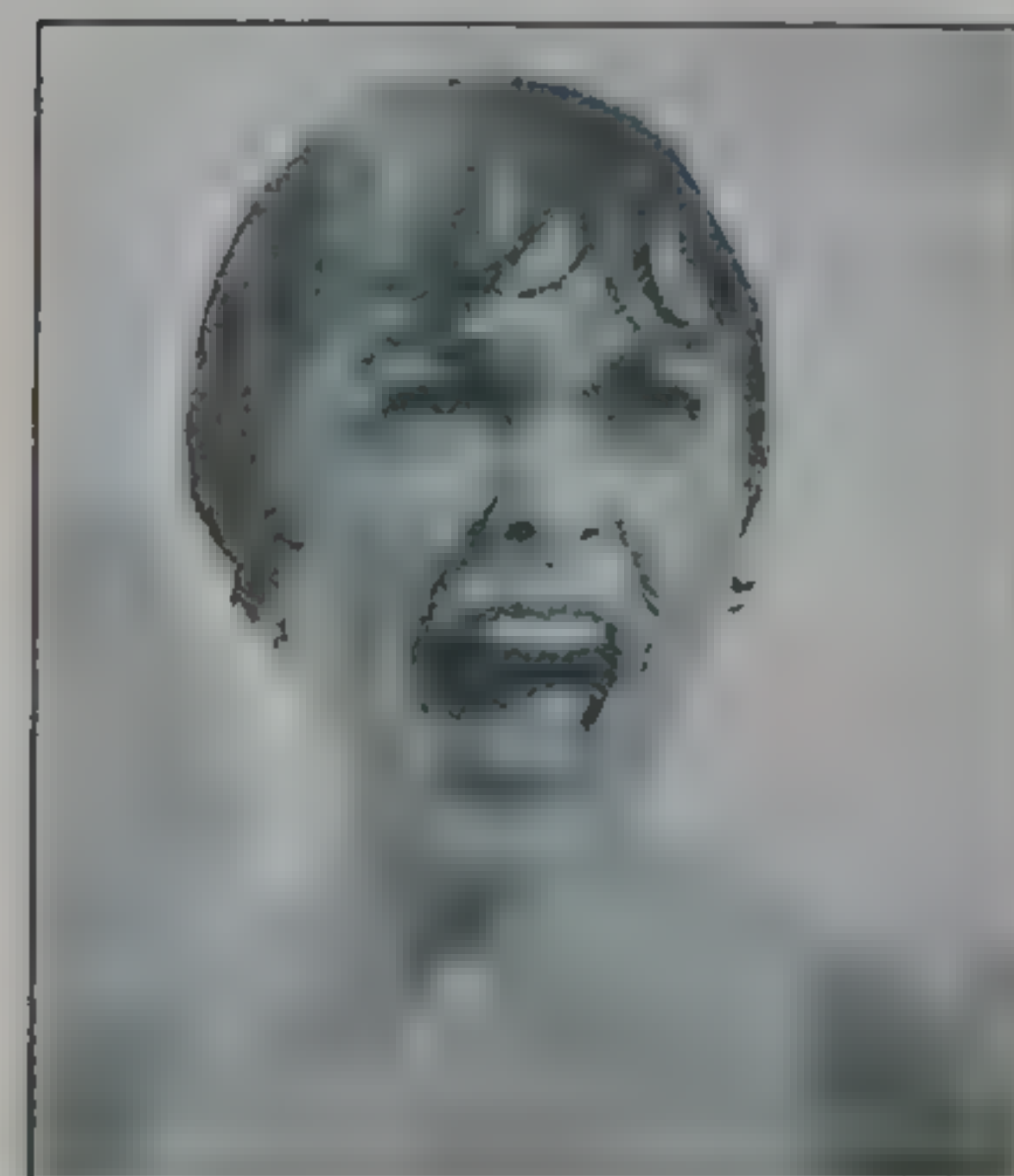
Vivien Leigh and Clark Gable in *Gone With The Wind*



John Travolta in *Saturday Night Fever*



Arnold Schwarzenegger in *Terminator II*



Janet Leigh in *Psycho*





Coronation Street



Dr Who



Happy Days

Thunderbirds



Cheers



Fawlty Towers

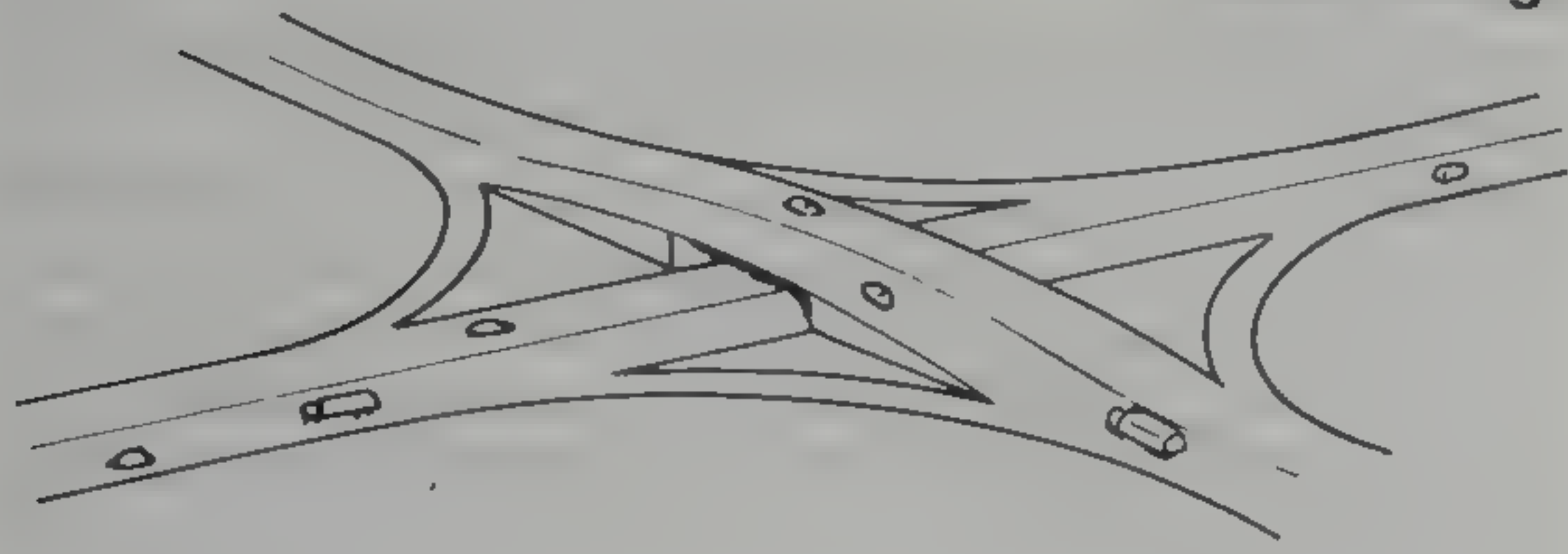


The Cosby Show



**in-ter-change**<sup>1</sup> /,ɪntə'tʃeɪndʒ||-ər-/ *v* [I;T (with)] to put each of (two things) in the place of the other; exchange: *The thief interchanged the diamonds with some pieces of glass.*

### interchange



a motorway interchange

**in-ter-change**<sup>2</sup> /,ɪntə'tʃeɪndʒ||-ər-/ *n* 1 [C;U] (an act of) interchanging; exchange: *a useful interchange of ideas* 2 [C] a system of smaller roads by which two or more main roads are connected: *We should leave the motorway at the next interchange.*

**in-ter-chan-gea-ble** /,ɪntə'tʃeɪndʒəbəl||-tər-/ *adj* [(with)] which can be used in place of each other or something else — **bly** *adv*: *The two words are used interchangeably.* — **bility** /,ɪntə'tʃeɪndʒə'bɪlɪti||-tər-/ *n* [U]

**in-ter-city** /,ɪntə'sɪti||-tər-/ *adj* [A] travelling fast between cities or leading from one city to another: *intercity roads*

**InterCity** *n, adj tdmk* 1 (of) a type of British Rail train which carries passengers quickly from one city or large town in Britain to another. InterCity trains travel faster and make fewer stops than other trains, and the service is considered to be better: *I'm catching an InterCity at four o'clock.* | *the InterCity network* 2 (of) the division of British Rail which runs these trains: *InterCity has made a profit this year.* | *InterCity management*

**in-ter-col-le-giate** /,ɪntəkə'lɪ:dʒɪt||-tər-/ *adj* (done) among members of different colleges: *intercollegiate sports*

**in-ter-com** /'ɪntəkəm||'ɪntərkɑ:m/ *n* a system by which one can talk through a machine to someone in a near place. Intercoms can be either one-way or two-way: *The airport manager spoke to the waiting passengers on/over the intercom.*

**in-ter-com-mu-ni-cate** /,ɪntəkə'mju:nɪkeɪt||-tər-/ *v* [I] 1 to make feelings, news, etc., known to each other 2 to have a door or doors opening into each other: *All three rooms intercommunicate.* — **cation** /,ɪntəkə'mju:nɪ'keɪʃən||-tər-/ *n* [U]

**in-ter-con-ti-nen-tal** /,ɪntəkɒntɪ'nentl||-tərkɑ:n-/ *adj* between CONTINENTS (=different land masses): *intercontinental trade/flights*

**intercontinental bal-lis-tic mis-sile** /,....., 'lɪsɪl/ *n* see ICBM

**in-ter-course** /'ɪntəkɔ:s||'ɪntərkɔ:rs/ *n* [U] 1 *fml* an exchange of feelings, actions, etc., which make people know each other more closely: *social intercourse* 2 SEXUAL INTERCOURSE

**in-ter-de-nom-i-na-tio-nal** /,ɪntədɒnəmɪ'neɪʃənəl||,ɪntədɒnɑ:-/ *adj* between or among different branches of the Christian church

**in-ter-de-part-men-tal** /,ɪntə,dɪ:pɑ:t'mentl||,ɪntərdɪ,pɑ:rt'mentl/ *adj* between different departments (of a firm, school, etc.): *intense interdepartmental rivalry* | *an interdepartmental conference*

**in-ter-de-pen-dent** /,ɪntədɪ'pendənt||-tər-/ *adj* depending on each other; necessary to each other: *Central government and local government are interdependent.* — **ly** *adv* — **dence** *n* [U]

**in-ter-dict** /'ɪntədɪkt||-ər-/ *n fml* an order not to do something, esp. a punishment in the Roman Catholic Church preventing one from taking part in the important services: *a papal interdict*

**in-ter-dis-ci-plin-ary** /,ɪntə,dɪsɪ'plɪnəri||,ɪntə'dɪsəplənəri/ *adj* of two or more branches of learning studied at a university: *an interdisciplinary course*

**in-ter-est**<sup>1</sup> /'ɪntərəst/ *n* 1 [C; U (in)] (a) readiness or desire to give attention to, be concerned with, or learn about something: *I have no interest in politics.* | *My son is already showing an interest in music.* | *I wish you'd take a bit more interest in your work.* 2 [U (to)] the quality in a thing that causes attention to be given: *Sport doesn't*

*hold much interest for my family.* | *That's of no interest to me.* (=I am not interested in it.) 3 [C] an activity, subject, etc., which one gives time and attention to: *Job application forms often ask you to list your leisure-time interests.* | *Eating seems to be his only interest in life!* 4 [C] also **interests** *pl.* — advantage, advancement, or favour: *You may not like these suggestions, but it would be in your interest/in your (best) interests to follow them.* | *He gave up his share in the interests of fairness.* (=in order to be fair) 5 [U] a charge made for the borrowing of money: *They lent me the money at 6% interest.* | (fig.) *She returned the insults with interest.* (=with additional force) — see also COMPOUND INTEREST, SIMPLE INTEREST 6 [C (in)] a share in a company, business, property, etc.: *She sold her interest in the company.* | *His business interests are very extensive.* 7 [C (in)] the fact of being connected with something, esp. so that one makes a profit from it: *If an MP wants to speak in parliament about something he's financially connected with, he has to declare his interest.* — see also VESTED INTEREST, CONFLICT OF INTEREST

**interest**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T] 1 to cause (someone) to have a feeling of interest: *Politics doesn't interest me.* 2 [(in)] to make (someone) want to buy, eat, or do something: *Can I interest you in this book?*

**in-ter-est-ed** /'ɪntərəstɪd/ *adj* 1 [(in)] having or showing interest: *an interested look on his face.* | *Are you interested in football?* [F+to-v] *I'd be interested to hear your opinion about this.* [F+(that)] *I'm interested that you (should) agree with him.* 2 [A] personally concerned, esp. so as to be unable to make a fair judgment from the outside: **Interested parties** (=people) *are excluded from the discussion.* — see also DISINTERESTED, UNINTERESTED — **ly** *adv*

**interest group** /'ɪ.., / also **special interest group** — *n* [C+sing./pl. v] a group of people that share an INTEREST, esp. an organization that attempts to influence government action — compare PRESSURE GROUP

**in-ter-est-ing** /'ɪntərəstɪŋ/ *adj* that takes (and keeps) one's interest; giving ENTERTAINMENT: *an interesting book/person/idea* | *How interesting!* — **ly** *adv*: **Interestingly enough** (=this fact is interesting) *the Prime Minister made no attempt to deny the rumour.*

**interest rates** /'ɪ.., / *n* [P] the PERCENTAGE amounts charged for borrowing money by the big banks and building societies (BUILDING SOCIETY), according to the BASE RATE set in Britain by the Bank of England, or the PRIME RATE set by banks in the US. Both governments use changes in interest rates as a method of controlling the ECONOMY: *Bank interest rates are going to rise this month.* | *High interest rates will help to keep inflation down.* — see also FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

**in-ter-face**<sup>1</sup> /'ɪntəfeɪs||-ər-/ *n* [(between)] a place or area where different things meet and have an effect on each other: *the man-machine interface* — see also USER INTERFACE

**interface**<sup>2</sup> *v* [I;T (with)] to connect or be connected by means of an interface: *to interface two computer systems*

**in-ter-fac-ing** /'ɪntəfeɪsɪŋ||-ər-/ *n* [U] material which can be sewn into articles of clothing to stiffen parts such as the collar or the LAPELS

**in-ter-fere** /,ɪntə'fɪər||-tər-/ *v* [I (in, between)] *derog* to enter into or take part in a matter which does not concern one, and in which one is not wanted: *I never interfere between husband and wife/in his affairs.* | *He's just an interfering old busybody.*

**interfere with** sbdy./sthg. *phr v* [T] 1 to get in the way of; prevent from working or happening: *The sound of the radio upstairs interferes with my work.* 2 to touch or move (something) in a way that is annoying or not allowed: *Who's been interfering with my books?* 3 *euph* to touch or annoy (someone) sexually: *He got put in prison for interfering with little girls.*

**in-ter-fer-ence** /,ɪntə'fɪərəns||-tər-/ *n* [U] 1 [(in, with, between)] the act of interfering: *I resented his interference in my affairs.* 2 the noises and shapes which spoil the working of electrical equipment, esp. when a radio or television station is difficult to listen to or look at because of the effect of another one near to its WAVELENGTH: *We apologize for the interference, which is due to bad weather conditions.*

**in-ter-fer-on** /,ɪntə'fɪərən||,ɪntə'fɪərən/ *n* [U] a chemical



- substance produced by the body to fight against certain disease-producing substances, esp. **VIRUSES**
- in-ter-ga-lac-tic** /,ɪntə'gælæktɪk/ -tər-/ *adj* [A] (happening or done) between the galaxies (**GALAXY**). The idea of intergalactic war is often the subject of **SCIENCE FICTION**: *intergalactic space*
- in-ter-im**<sup>1</sup> /'ɪntərɪm/ *adj* [A *no comp.*] (done) as a less complete part of something to be given in full later: *The government is taking interim measures to help those in immediate need.* | *an interim report*
- interim**<sup>2</sup> *n* **in the interim** **MEANWHILE**: *A room has been booked from September onwards. In the interim meetings will be held at my house.*
- in-te-ri-or**<sup>1</sup> /ɪn'tɪəriə/ *n* **1** [C (of) *usu. sing.*] the part which is inside, indoors, or farthest from the edge or outside: *the interior of the cave* | *The outside of the house needs to be decorated, but the interior is in excellent condition.* — opposite **exterior** **2** [the] the inside of a country or the part of a country which is away from the coast: *She led an expedition into the interior.*
- interior**<sup>2</sup> *adj* inside, indoors, or furthest from the edge or outside: *an interior room* — opposite **exterior**
- interior dec-o-ra-tor** /ˌɪnɪərɪə'leɪtər/ also **interior de-sign-er** /ˌɪnɪərɪə'dɪʒnər/ *n* someone who plans and chooses the colours, furnishings, etc., for the inside of someone else's room or house (but *usu.* does not do the actual work of putting them in)
- Interior, Department of the** [the] see **DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**
- interior min-is-ter** /ˌɪnɪərɪə'mɪnɪstər/ *n* the head of a British government department, the **interior ministry**/MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR, which is responsible for public order inside a country and controls organizations such as the police and the fire service, as well as the movement of people into the country. In Britain this minister is known as the Home Secretary and the department is called the Home Office.
- interior mon-o-logue** /ˌɪnɪərɪə'mɒnələʊɡ/ *n* a speech in a play in which a character tells his/her thoughts to the **AUDIENCE** (=the people watching)
- interior sprung mat-tress** /ˌɪnɪərɪə'sprʌŋɡmætrɛs/ *n* a **MATTRESS** which contains many springs. Interior sprung mattresses are thought to be more comfortable and less harmful to one's back than filled mattresses.
- in-ter-ject** /ɪntə'dʒekt/ -ər-/ *v* [I;T] *fml* to make (a sudden remark) between other remarks: *"I don't agree at all!" he interjected.* | *If I may interject a few comments at this point ...*
- in-ter-jec-tion** /ɪntə'dʒekʃən/ -tər-/ *n* **1** [C] a phrase, word, or set of sounds used as a sudden remark, *usu.* expressing a strong feeling such as shock, disapproval, or pleasure; **EXCLAMATION**: *"Good Heavens!" and "Ouch!" are interjections.* **2** [U] the act of interjecting
- in-ter-lace** /ɪntə'leɪs/ -ər-/ *v* [T (with)] to join together or to something else by twisting over and under the other: *interlaced branches*
- in-ter-lard** /ɪntə'lɑːd/ -ər-/ *v* [T (with)] to mix (speech or writing) with foreign phrases, photographs, etc.
- in-ter-lin-gua** /ɪntə'lɪŋgwə/ -tər-/ *n* an **INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGE** developed in 1951 which has been used as the common language at medical and scientific meetings —compare **ESPERANTO**; see also **INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGE**
- in-ter-link** /ɪntə'lɪŋk/ -ər-/ *v* [T (with)] to join (things) together, or (one thing) with something else: *interlinked fates*
- in-ter-lock** /ɪntə'lɒk/ -ər-/ *v* [I;T] to fasten or be fastened together, esp. in a certain order or so that movement of one part causes movement in others: *The two gear wheels have interlocked.*
- in-ter-loc-u-tor** /ɪntə'lɒkjʊtər/ -ər-/ *n fml* the person who is talking to one: *my interlocutor*
- in-ter-lop-er** /ɪntə'ləʊpər/ -ər-/ *n derog* a person who enters a place or group with no right to be there: *They threw the interloper out.* —compare **INTRUDER**
- in-ter-lude** /ɪntə'lʊd/ -ər-/ *n* **1** a period of time or an event, esp. of a different kind, which comes in between two other events, activities, etc.: *a brief interlude of*

*democracy before a return to military rule* **2** a the time (**INTERVAL**) between parts of a play, film, concert, etc. b a short piece of music, talk, etc., used for filling this time

- in-ter-mar-riage** /ɪntə'mærɪdʒ/ -ər-/ *n* [U] **1** marriage between members of different groups (families, races, etc.) **2** marriage within one's own group or family
- in-ter-mar-ry** /ɪntə'mæri/ -ər-/ *v* [I (with)] **1** to become connected by marriage with each other or someone else of another group, family, etc.: *The two tribes have been intermarrying for hundreds of years.* **2** to marry each other or someone else within the same group, family, etc.: *Members of some ancient races intermarried with their own sisters.*
- in-ter-me-di-a-ry** /ɪntə'mɪdiəri/ -ər-/ *n* a person who comes between two people or groups of people, esp. in order to bring them into agreement: *He acted as an intermediary in the dispute.* —compare **ARBITRATE**
- in-ter-me-di-ate** /ɪntə'mɪdiət/ -tər-/ *adj* [(between) *no comp.*] (done or happening) between two others; halfway: *at an intermediate stage of development* | *intermediate schools*
- intermediate school** /ˌɪntə'mɪdiət/ -tər-/ *n* **AmE** a **JUNIOR SCHOOL** OR **MIDDLE SCHOOL**
- intermediate tech-nol-o-gy** /ɪntə'mɪdiət'teknələʊdʒi/ -tər-/ *n* [U;C] (a) practical science which is uncomplicated, easy to learn, and cheap, and therefore suitable for use in developing countries (**DEVELOPING COUNTRY**)
- in-ter-ment** /ɪn'tɜːmənt/ -tər-/ *n* [C;U] *fml* burial —see also **INTER**
- in-ter-mez-zo** /ɪntə'metsəʊ/ -tər-/ *n* -zos or -zi /tsi/ a short piece of music played alone, or one which connects longer pieces
- in-ter-mi-na-ble** /ɪn'tɜːmɪnəbəl/ -tər-/ *adj derog* (seeming) endless, esp. when very uninteresting: *interminable delays* | *an interminable speech* —**bly** *adv*
- in-ter-min-gle** /ɪntə'mɪŋɡəl/ -tər-/ also **in-ter-mix** /-mɪks/ — *v* [I (with)] (*usu.* of groups or masses) to mix together or with something else: *The waters of the streams met and intermingled.* | *They intermingled with the crowd in the hope that their pursuers would lose sight of them.*
- in-ter-mis-sion** /ɪntə'mɪʃən/ -tər-/ *n* *esp. AmE* for **INTERVAL** (2)
- in-ter-mit-tent** /ɪntə'mɪtənt/ -tər-/ *adj* happening, then stopping, then happening again, with pauses in between; not continuous: *Today will be mostly fine and sunny, with intermittent showers.* —**ly** *adv*
- in-tern**<sup>1</sup> /ɪn'tɜːn/ -tər-/ *v* [T] to put in prison or limit the freedom of movement of (someone considered dangerous), esp. in wartime or for political reasons: *to intern enemy aliens*
- in-tern**<sup>2</sup> /ɪntɜːn/ -tər-/ *n* *esp. AmE* a person who has nearly or recently finished professional training, esp. in medicine or teaching, and is gaining controlled practical experience, esp. in a hospital or classroom —compare **HOUSEMAN** —**ship** *n*
- in-ter-nal** /ɪn'tɜːnl/ -tər-/ *adj* **1** [(to)] of or in the inside, esp. of the body: *The doctor x-rayed her to see if there were any internal injuries.* | *the internal organs* **2** of one's own country; not foreign: *internal trade* | *the Minister of Internal Affairs* **3** from the place, organization, etc., which is under consideration rather than from outside it: *an internal audit* | *There is internal evidence that the poem was not written by Chaucer.* —opposite **external** —**ly** *adv*: *The matter will be settled internally; we needn't involve outsiders.* | *"Not to be taken internally."* (instruction on a medicine bottle, tube, etc.)
- internal-com-bus-tion en-gine** /ɪn'tɜːnlkəm'bʊstɪən/ -tər-/ *n* an engine, such as a car engine, which produces power by the burning of a substance, such as petrol, inside itself
- internal ex-am-in-er** /ɪn'tɜːnlɪkəm'ɪnər/ -tər-/ *n* **BrE** an examiner who is a teacher at the institution where students are doing an examination —compare **EXTERNAL EXAMINER**
- in-ter-nal-ize** also **-ise** **BrE** /ɪn'tɜːnləɪz/ -tər-/ *v* [T] to make (esp. a principle or a pattern of behaviour) a conscious or unconscious part of the self as the result of learning or repeated experience —**ization** /ɪn'tɜːnləɪzɪ'zeɪʃən/ *n* [U]



**internal medi-cine** /ˌɪnˌtɪːl ˈmɛdɪˌsaɪn/ *n* [U] *AmE med* a type of medical knowledge in which doctors **DIAGNOSE** (=say what is wrong with a person) and treat illnesses but do not perform **SURGERY**

**Internal Rev-e-nue Ser-vice** /ˌɪnˌtɪːl ˈrɛvˌnjuː ˈsɜːvɪs/ also **Internal Revenue**, *abbrev. IRS*—[*the+sing/pl. v*] the office which collects national taxes in the US —compare **INLAND REVENUE**

**in-ter-na-tion-al** <sup>1</sup> /ˌɪntəˈnæʃənəl-||-tər-/ *adj* concerning, taking place between, or recognized by more than one nation: *international trade agreements* | *international arms-limitation talks* | *an international football match* | *international terrorism* | *an international star* (=famous in more than one country) —*~ly adv*: *internationally famous*

**international** <sup>2</sup> *n* **1** an international sports match **2** someone who plays for their country's team in such a match: *an England/English international*

**International** *n* any of four international **LEFT-WING** political associations

**International Air Trans-port As-so-ci-a-tion** /ˌɪntəˈnæʃənəl ˈaɪr ˈtrænzˌpɔːt ˈæsoʊˌsiːəˈteɪʃən/ also **IATA** *abbrev.*—[*the*] an international association of **AIRLINE** operators that aims to encourage safe, regular, reasonably-priced airline services

**International Bank for Re-con-struc-tion and De-vel-op-ment** /ˌɪntəˈnæʃənəl ˈbæŋk fɔːr ˈriːkənˌstrʌkʃən ˈænd ˈdevələpmənt/ [*the*] see **WORLD BANK**

**International Court of Jus-tice** /ˌɪntəˈnæʃənəl ˈkɔːrt ɒf ˈdʒʌstɪs/ [*the*] a court in the Hague, also known as the **World Court**, which judges legal questions brought there by countries in the United Nations

**International Crim-i-nal Po-lice Or-ga-ni-za-tion** /ˌɪntəˈnæʃənəl ˈkɹɪmɪˈnəl ˈpɔːliːs ɔːrɡəˈnaɪzəˈteɪʃən/ [*the*] see **INTERPOL**

**international date line** /ˌɪntəˈnæʃənəl ˈdeɪt laɪn/ [*the*] (*often caps*) an imaginary line that goes from the **NORTH POLE** to the **SOUTH POLE** through the middle of the Pacific, to the east of which the date is one day later than it is to the west. It is necessary because it makes sure that in all countries of the world, the time is related to day and night. —see also **GREENWICH MEAN TIME**

**In-ter-na-tio-nale** /ˌɪntənəˈʃəːnəl-||-tər-/ *n* [*the*] the international **SOCIALIST** song

**International House** /ˌɪntəˈnæʃənəl ˈhaʊs/ an organization which has English Language schools in many countries

**in-ter-na-tion-al-is-m** /ˌɪntəˈnæʃənəlɪzəm-||-tər-/ *n* [U] the principle that nations should work together, because their differences are less important than the needs they have in common —*ist n*

**in-ter-na-tion-al-ize** also *-ise BrE* /ˌɪntəˈnæʃənəlaɪz-||-tər-/ *v* [T] to make international or bring under international control —*ization* /ˌɪntənəˈʃəːnələɪˈzeɪʃən-||-tər-/ *n* [U]

**international lan-guage** /ˌɪntəˈnæʃənəl ˈlæŋɡwɪdʒ/ *n* a language which can be used as a common means of **COMMUNICATION** by people of different nationalities. Some artificial languages have been specially invented for this purpose, though many people today consider English to be an international language, esp. in the business world. —see also **ESPERANTO**, **INTERLINGUA**

**international law** /ˌɪntəˈnæʃənəl ˈlɔː/ *n* [U] a collection of laws which is recognized by different countries and used in their relations with each other. The United Nations has the right to force its member countries to obey international law.

**International Mon-e-ta-ry Fund** /ˌɪntəˈnæʃənəl ˈmɒnɪˌtəri ˈfʌnd/ also **IMF** *abbrev.*—[*the*] an international organization whose aims are to encourage the growth of trade and the strength of nations' money systems, as well as helping poor countries to pay their debts. It is part of the United Nations and has been based in Washington, DC since it was established in 1944.

**international re-la-tions** /ˌɪntəˈnæʃənəl ˈreɪʃən-||-tən-/ *n* [U] the area of politics which is concerned with the relations between different countries

**international re-lief a-gen-cy** /ˌɪntəˈnæʃənəl ˈrɪliːf ˈædʒənˌsiː/ *n* any organization, such as **Oxfam**, the **Red Cross**, etc., which works in countries all over the world to lessen the suffering of the poor, hungry, and sick

**in-ter-ne-cine** /ˌɪntəˈnɪːsəɪn-||-tər ˈnɪːsəɪn-||-tər/ *adj* *fml* (of fighting, etc.) between members of the same group, nation, etc.: *internecine strife*

**in-tern-ee** /ˌɪntɜːˈniː-||-zər-/ *n* someone who is interned (**INTERN**<sup>1</sup>)

**in-tern-ist** /ˌɪntɜːnɪst-||-zər-/ *n* *AmE med* a doctor who has a general knowledge about all illnesses and medical conditions and who does not perform **SURGERY** —see also extra information on page 829

**in-tern-ment** /ɪnˈtɜːnmənt-||-zər-/ *n* [C;U] the imprisonment of people, usu. without their being taken to court and found guilty of any crime, because they are considered dangerous, esp. in wartime and for political reasons.

► **CULTURAL NOTE** In 1942, the US government ordered the internment of Japanese Americans after Japanese forces had bombed Pearl Harbor. This policy was greatly criticized. ◀

In the 1970s the British government introduced internment for certain people thought to be members of the IRA, but this method of dealing with violence in Northern Ireland was ended after much criticism.

**in-ter-per-son-al** /ˌɪntəˈpɜːsənəl-||-tərˈpɜːr-/ *adj* being, related to, or concerning relations between people —compare **INTRAPERSONAL**

**in-ter-plan-e-ta-ry** /ˌɪntəˈplænɪtəri-||-tərˈplænɪteri/ *adj* [A] (happening or done) between the **PLANETS**: *interplanetary travel/space*

**in-ter-play** /ˌɪntəpleɪ-||-ər-/ *n* [U] (*of, between*) the action or effect of two or more things on each other: *the interplay of the sparkling light on the water*

**In-ter-pol** /ˌɪntəpɒl-||-tərˈpɔːl/ the International Criminal Police Organization; an international police organization for helping national police forces to catch criminals. More than 100 countries are members of Interpol, which provides them with information about international criminals and helps to catch them, esp. criminals involved in counterfeiting (**COUNTERFEIT**<sup>1</sup>), **FORGERY**, smuggling (**SMUGGLE**), and the drugs trade.

**in-ter-po-late** /ɪnˈtɜːpəleɪt-||-zər-/ *v* [T] *fml* **1** [(into)] to put in (additional words): *He interpolated a phrase about the growth of profits into the report.* **2** to interrupt by saying: *“But that’s not true!” she interpolated.* —*lation* /ɪnˈtɜːpəˈleɪʃən-||-tɜːr-/ *n* [C;U]

**in-ter-pose** /ˌɪntəˈpəʊz-||-tər-/ *v* [T] (*between*) *fml* **1** to put between two other things: *He interposed himself (=his body) between them to stop them fighting.* **2** to introduce or say between the parts of a conversation or argument: *If I may interpose a few comments at this stage ...* —*position* /ˌɪntəpəˈzɪʃən-||-tər-/ *n* [C;U]

**in-ter-pret** /ɪnˈtɜːprɪt-||-zər-/ *v* **1** [T] (*as*) to understand the likely meaning of (a statement, action, etc.); place a particular meaning on: *I interpreted his silence as a refusal.* | *to interpret a dream* —see also **MISINTERPRET** **2** [T] to show one's own ideas of the meaning of (a work of art) in one's performance: *Not everyone agreed with the way she interpreted the piano sonata, but it was a technically perfect performance.* **3** [I;T] to put (something spoken) in one language into the words of another language: *I don't speak Russian; will you interpret (what she says) for me?* —compare **TRANSLATE** (1)

**in-ter-pre-ta-tion** /ɪnˈtɜːprɪˈteɪʃən-||-zər-/ *n* [C;U] **1** (an act of) interpreting; explanation: *So that's your interpretation of the current political situation? I would put a different interpretation on it myself.* (=explain it differently) | *a judge's interpretation of the law* **2** (a) performance giving the performer's ideas of how something should be performed and what it means: *a wonderful interpretation of the symphony/the role of Macbeth*

**in-ter-pre-ta-tive** /ɪnˈtɜːprɪˈtətɪv-||-tɜːr-/ also **in-ter-pre-tive** /ɪnˈtɜːprɪˈtɪv-||-zər-/ *adj* of or for interpretation: *the conductor's interpretative skill*

**in-ter-pret-er** /ɪnˈtɜːprɪˈtər-||-zər-/ *n* **1** a person who **INTERPRETS** (3), esp. as a job —compare **TRANSLATOR** **2** a computer **PROGRAM** that changes an instruction into a form that can be used directly by the computer, so that the instruction can be carried out at once

**in-ter-ra-cial** /ˌɪntəˈreɪʃəl-||-tər-/ *adj* (done, happening, etc.) between different races of human beings: *interracial harmony* —*~ly adv*

**Inter-Rail** /ˌɪntə ˈreɪl-||-tər-/ *v* [I] to travel by train using an Inter-Rail pass: *We spent three weeks Inter-Railing around Europe.*

**Inter-Rail pass** /ˌɪntə ˈreɪl ˈpɑːs/ *n* a British railway ticket sold for



a fixed price that allows the holder unlimited travel on railways in many European countries for a fixed time. Inter-Rail passes are very popular with people esp. students who want to see a lot of foreign countries cheaply.

**in-ter-reg-num** /,ɪntə'regnəm/ *n* -nums or -na /nə/ **1** a period of time when a country has no king or queen, because the new ruler has not yet taken up his or her position **2** a period of time between events, esp. when waiting for someone to take up an important position

**in-ter-re-late** /,ɪntərɪ'leɪt/ [I;T (with)] to connect or be connected to each other or with something else in a way that makes one depend on the other: *Wages and prices interrelate/are interrelated.*

**in-ter-re-la-tion** /,ɪntərɪ'leɪʃən/ also **in-ter-re-la-tion-ship** /,ɪntərɪ'leɪʃənʃɪp/— *n* [C;U (between)] a (close) connection; relation of dependence: *the interrelation between wages and prices*

**in-ter-ro-gate** /ɪn'terəgeɪt/ *v* [T] **1** to question formally for a special purpose, esp. for a long time and perhaps with the use of threats or violence: *The police interrogated the suspect for several hours.* —see ASK (USAGE) **2** to (try to) get direct information from: *to interrogate a computer* —**gator** *n*: *He refused to tell his interrogators anything.* —**gation** /ɪn'terə'geɪʃən/ *n* [C;U]

**interrogation mark** /... '... ,-/ *n* a QUESTION MARK

**in-ter-ro-g-a-tive**<sup>1</sup> /,ɪntə'rogətɪv/—'rɑː-/ *adj* *fml* or *tech* (esp. in grammar) asking a question or having the form of a question: *the interrogative mood of a verb* | “Who” and “what” are interrogative pronouns. —compare DECLARATIVE, IMPERATIVE —*~ly adv*

**interrogative**<sup>2</sup> *n tech* **1** [the] (in grammar) the form used for asking questions: *Put this statement into the interrogative.* **2** [C] a word (such as **who**, **what**, **which**) used in asking a question

**in-ter-rupt** /,ɪntə'rʌpt/ *v* **1** [I;T] to break the flow of speech or action of (someone) by saying or doing something: *Don't interrupt (me), children; it's rude.* | *She's studying for an exam tomorrow, so you'd better not interrupt her.* **2** [T] to break the flow of (something continuous): *The calm of the afternoon was interrupted by a loud bang.* **3** as I was saying before I was so rudely interrupted *humor* (a phrase used when continuing to say something after someone has interrupted you) —*~ion* /'ɪrʌpʃən/ *n* [C;U]: *several infuriating interruptions*

**in-ter-sect** /,ɪntə'sekt/—ə-/ *v* [I;T] to cut across (each other or something else): *intersecting paths/lines*

**in-ter-sec-tion** /,ɪntə'sekʃən, 'ɪntəsekʃən/—tər-/ *n* **1** [U] the act of intersecting **2** [C] a point where roads, lines, etc., intersect, esp. where two roads cross; CROSSROADS: *an accident at the intersection of North Road and Lemsford Road*

**in-ter-spense** /,ɪntə'spɜːs/—,ɪntə'spɜːrs/ *v* [T] to set (something) here and there among other things: [+obj+in, among, throughout] *There were small dots interspersed in the pattern.* [+obj+with] *The pattern was interspersed with small dots.* | *Sunny periods will be interspersed with occasional showers.*

**in-ter-state**<sup>1</sup> /,ɪntə'steɪt/—ə-/ *adj* [A] done between, happening between, or connecting states, such as the states of the US: *interstate highways*

**interstate**<sup>2</sup> *adv AustrE* from the state one is in to another: *I'm heading interstate tonight.*

**Interstate** *n* any of the MOTORWAYS of four or more LANES in the US, marked by red and blue signs and numbered: *There was an accident out on the Interstate this morning.* | *west on Interstate 80* —see EXPRESSWAY (USAGE)

**Interstate Commerce Com-mis-sion** /,... '... ,-/ also ICC *abbrev.*— [the] the branch of the US government that is concerned with trade within the 50 states

**in-ter-stel-lar** /,ɪntə'stelə-/—tər-/ *adj* [A] (happening or done) between the stars: *interstellar gases/space*

**in-ter-stice** /ɪn'tɜːstɪs/—-ɜːr-/ *n* [(of, in, between) *usu. pl.*] *fml* a small space or crack between things placed close together

**in-ter-twine** /,ɪntə'twaɪn/—ə-/ *v* [I;T (with)] to (cause to) twist together or with something else: *intertwining branches* | (fig.) *Their fates were inextricably intertwined.* (=firmly joined together)

**in-ter-val** /'ɪntəvəl/—tər-/ *n* **1** [(between)] a period of time between events, activities, etc.: *After a long interval he*

*replied.* | *the interval between receiving bills and paying them* | *Tomorrow it will be mostly cloudy, with a few sunny intervals.* | *During the six-month interval between his arrest and the trial, new evidence came to light.* **2** *BrE* || **intermission** *AmE*— such a period of time between the parts of a play, concert, etc.: *I like to eat ice cream in the interval.* **3** the difference in PITCH between two musical notes **4** at intervals (of) happening regularly after equal periods of time or appearing at equal distances (of): *The bell rang at 20-minute intervals.* | *These seeds are planted at intervals of three inches.* (=three inches apart) | *at regular intervals*

**in-ter-vene** /,ɪntə'vɪzn/—ə-/ *v* [I] **1** [(in)] (of a person) to interrupt, esp. in order to prevent a bad result: *They were about to start fighting when their father intervened.* | *The government intervened to stabilize the pound.* **2** (of an event) to happen so as to prevent or cause something: *He was going to go to university, but the war intervened.* **3** [(between)] (of time) to come between events: *I hadn't seen him since 1980, and he had aged a lot in the intervening years.*

**in-ter-ven-tion** /,ɪntə'venʃən/—tər-/ *n* [C;U (in)] (an act of) intervening: *The government's intervention in this dispute will not help.*

**in-ter-ven-tion-is-m** /,ɪntə'venʃənɪzəm/—tər-/ *n* [U] the practice of intervening, esp. by a government which intervenes in economic affairs in its own country or in the political affairs of another country

**in-ter-view**<sup>1</sup> /'ɪntəvjuː/—ə-/ *n* an occasion when a person is asked questions by one or more other people, either a to decide whether he or she is a suitable person to be given a job, a place at a college, etc. or b to find out about his or her opinions, ideas, etc., so that they can be printed in a newspaper, magazine, etc., or broadcast: *When she was still at school, she had her first interview, for a job in a shoeshop.* | *The film star agreed to give an interview immediately after his wedding.*

**interview**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T] to ask questions of (someone) in an interview: *She's being interviewed for the job.* | *A reporter from the "Washington Post" interviewed the President.* —*~er n*

**in-ter-view-ee** /,ɪntəvjuː'ɪː/—ə-/ *n* someone who is being or is to be interviewed, esp. for a job

**in-ter-war** /,ɪntə'wɔː-/—ə-/ *adj* happening between the First World War and the Second World War: *the interwar years/period*

**in-ter-weave** /,ɪntə'wiːv/—ə-/ *v* -wove /'wəʊv/, -woven /'wəʊvən/ [T (with)] to weave together or with something else: *They interwove the red and gold threads.* | (fig.) *Our lives are interwoven.* (=seem joined together)

**in-tes-tate** /ɪn'testeɪt, -stɪt/ *adj law* not having made a WILL<sup>2</sup> (5) which leaves one's property to named people: *The old man died intestate.*

**intestinal for-ti-tude** /,... '.../ *n* [U] *AmE infml* courage or the ability to bear something very difficult

**in-tes-tine** /ɪn'testɪn/ also **intestines** *pl.*— *n* the long tube that carries waste matter from the stomach out of the body; bowels —see also LARGE INTESTINE, SMALL INTESTINE —**tinal** *adj*

**In the Bleak Mid-Win-ter** /,... ,... '.../ the title and first line of a religious song (CAROL) sung in Britain at Christmas

**in-ti-fa-da** /,ɪntɪ'fɑːdə/ [the] (often *cap.*) a movement started by Palestinian Arabs in the late 1980s in protest at the Israeli holding of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip

**in-ti-ma-cy** /'ɪntɪməsi/ *n* **1** [S;U (with)] the state of being intimate: *His claims to (an) intimacy with/to be on terms of intimacy with the President are somewhat exaggerated.* **2** [C often *pl.*] a remark or action of a kind that happens only between people who know each other very well: *exchanging intimacies with one's close friends* **3** also **intimacies** *pl.*— [U (with)] *euph* the act of sex: “*He went up to her room and intimacy took place,*” said the policeman.

**in-ti-mate**<sup>1</sup> /'ɪntɪmət/ *adj* **1** [(with)] having an extremely close relationship: *intimate friends* | *He is intimate with the President.* | *They are on intimate terms.* **2** providing or suggesting warm or private surroundings for making close (esp. sexual) relationships: *an intimate candlelit dinner for two* **3** *fml* detailed; resulting from close study or association: *She has an intimate knowledge of the law.* **4** [A] personal; private: *She confided her most intimate thoughts to her diary.* **5** [F (with)] *euph* having sex:



"They were intimate three times," reported the policeman.  
— ~ly adv

**intimate**<sup>2</sup> *n* someone who is a close friend of, and shares secrets with, another person: *an intimate of the President's*

**in-ti-mate**<sup>3</sup> /'ɪntɪmeɪt/ *v* [T] *fml* to make known indirectly; suggest; IMPLY: *He intimated a wish to go by saying that it was late.* [+that] *He intimated that he wanted to go that we should leave.* — **mation** /,ɪntɪ'meɪʃən/ *n* [C;U]

**in-tim-i-date** /ɪn'tɪmɪdeɪt/ *v* [T (into)] to frighten, esp. by making threats: *They tried to intimidate him into doing what they wanted.* | (fig.) *an intimidating pile of dirty dishes to do* — **dation** /ɪn,tɪmɪ'deɪʃən/ *n* [U]: *After bribes had proved useless, they tried threats and intimidation.* | *the intimidation of defence witnesses*

**intl** written abbrev. for INTERNATIONAL

**in-to** /'ɪntə; before vowels 'ɪntu; strong 'ɪntu:/ *prep* 1 so as to be in: *It started to rain so they went into the house.* | *She jumped into the water.* | *He changed into his uniform.* | *He went into (=got a job in) the clothing trade.* | *They worked far into the night.* | *You'll get into trouble if you do that.* | *He scared them into silence.* 2 so as to be: *She translated it into French.* | *She developed into a beautiful woman.* | *The frog turned into a prince.* | *Roll the clay into a ball.* 3 against; so as to hit: *He bumped into me and knocked me over.* 4 (used when dividing one number by another): *Seven into eleven won't go.* 5 *infml* keen on; interested in: *He's given up photography and now he's into computers.* | *She's really into modern dance.*

**in-tol-e-ra-ble** /ɪn'tɒlərəbəl/ -'təz-/ *adj* which is too difficult, painful, unfair, bad, etc., to be borne; unbearable: *intolerable pain/rudeness* | *an intolerable situation* — **bly** adv

**in-tol-e-rant** /ɪn'tɒlərənt/ -'təz-/ *adj* [(of)] not able or willing to accept ways of thinking and behaving which are different from one's own: *intolerant of any opposition* | *intolerant bigots* — ~ly adv — **rance** *n* [U]: *racial intolerance*

**in-to-na-tion** /,ɪntə'neɪʃən/ *n* [C;U] *esp. tech* (a pattern of) rise and fall in the level (PITCH<sup>3</sup>) of the voice, which often adds meaning to what is being said (e.g. to show that a question is being asked, that the speaker is angry, etc.): *Questions are spoken with a rising intonation.* — compare INFLECTION, STRESS<sup>1</sup> (4)

**in-tone** /ɪn'təʊn/ *v* [I;T] to say (a poem, prayer, etc.) in an almost level voice; CHANT: *The priest intoned the blessing.*

**in to-to** /,ɪn 'təʊtəʊ/ *adv* *Lat* totally; as a whole: *They accepted the plan in toto.*

**in-tox-i-cant** /ɪn'tɒksɪkənt/ ||ɪn'tə:k-/ *n tech* something which intoxicates, esp. an alcoholic drink

**in-tox-i-cate** /ɪn'tɒksɪkeɪt/ ||ɪn'tə:k-/ *v* [T] 1 *tech* (of alcohol) to make drunk: *He was fined for driving while intoxicated.* | *intoxicating liquor* 2 [often pass.] *fml* to bring out strong feelings of wild excitement in: *intoxicated by his success/by the thought of all the money he might win* — **cation** /ɪn,tɒksɪ'keɪʃən/ ||ɪn,tə:k-/ *n* [U]

**in-trac-ta-ble** /ɪn'træktəbəl/ *adj fml* 1 very difficult to deal with or find an answer to: *intractable problems* 2 having such a strong will as to be difficult to control: *an intractable child* — **bly** adv — **bility** /ɪn,træktə'brɪlɪti/ *n* [U]

**in-tra-mu-ral** /,ɪntrə'mjuərəl-/ *adj* (happening) within a place or organization: *intramural courses at college* | *intramural sports* (=between teams from the same school or college) — opposite **extramural**

**in-tran-si-gent** /ɪn'trænsɪdʒənt/ *adj fml derog* (of a person or their behaviour) showing extreme ideas, esp. in politics, which cannot be changed by other people's wishes or arguments: *The government were urged on all sides to change their proposals, but they remained completely intransigent.* — ~ly adv — **gence** *n* [U]

**in-tran-si-tive** /ɪn'trænsɪtɪv/ *adj tech* (of a verb) having a subject but no object. Intransitive verbs are marked [I] in this dictionary: "Break" is intransitive in the sentence "My cup fell and broke" but transitive in "I broke the cup". — compare DITRANSITIVE, TRANSITIVE — **intransitive** *n* — ~ly adv

**in-tra-per-son-al** /,ɪntrə'pɜ:sənəl/ || -'pɜ:r-/ *adj* happening in the mind rather than between two people — compare INTERPERSONAL

**in-tra-u-te-rine de-vice** /,ɪntrə'ju:tərɪn dɪ'vaɪs/ || -tərən-/ *n* see IUD

**in-tra-ve-nous** /,ɪntrə'vɪznəs-/ *adj* (done) into or by way of

a VEIN (=tube in the body taking blood back to the heart): *The drug was administered by intravenous injection.* — ~ly adv

**in tray** /'ɪ·-/ *n* a box used for storing work, letters, etc. which need to be dealt with: *When I came back from my holiday, my in tray was overflowing.* — compare OUT TRAY — see picture at TRAY

**in-trench** /ɪn'trentʃ/ *v* [T] to ENTRENCH

**in-trep-id** /ɪn'trepɪd/ *adj* *apprec, esp. lit* showing no fear; brave: *the intrepid mountaineers* — ~ly adv — ~ity /,ɪntrə'pɪdɪti/ *n* [U] *fml*

**in-tri-ca-cy** /'ɪntrɪkəsi/ *n* 1 [U] the quality or state of being intricate: *the intricacy of the lace/the problem* 2 [C often pl.] something intricate: *the intricacies of political manoeuvring*

**in-tri-cate** /'ɪntrɪkət/ *adj* containing many detailed parts, and thus sometimes difficult to understand: *an intricate pattern/story* — ~ly adv

**in-trigue**<sup>1</sup> /ɪn'trɪg/ *v* 1 [T] to interest greatly, esp. because strange, mysterious, or unexpected; FASCINATE: *He's always been intrigued by machinery.* | *You intrigue me; tell me more!* 2 [I (against)] to make secret plans; PLOT

**in-trigue**<sup>2</sup> /'ɪntrɪg, ɪn'trɪg/ *n* 1 [U] the act or practice of planning something secretly: *She got to her present high position by plotting and intrigue.* 2 [C (against)] a secret plan or activity between two or more people

**in-tri-guing** /ɪn'trɪgɪŋ/ *adj* very interesting, esp. because of some strange quality; FASCINATING: *an intriguing idea/story/woman* — ~ly adv

**in-trin-sic** /ɪn'trɪnsɪk, -zɪk/ *adj* [(to)] being part of the nature or character of someone or something; INHERENT: *her intrinsic goodness* | *He admitted the intrinsic merits of my idea, but said it would need a lot of refinement before it could be put into practice.* | *difficulties that are intrinsic to such a situation* — ~ally /kli/ *adv*: *He's intrinsically honest, although he is tempted to cheat sometimes.*

**int-ro** /'ɪntrəʊ/ *n* -s [(to)] *infml* an introduction: *Can you arrange an intro to the chairman for me?*

**in-tro-duce** /,ɪntrə'dju:z/ -'du:z/ *v* [T] 1 [(to)] to make known for the first time to each other or someone else, esp. by telling two people each other's names: *I introduced John to/and Mary last year, and now they're married.* | *Have you two been introduced?* | *Let me introduce myself: my name is (John) Simpson.* | (fig.) *Let me introduce you to the pleasures of wine-tasting.* 2 [(into, to)] to bring in, esp. for the first time: *Potatoes were introduced into Europe from South America.* | *His unfortunate remarks introduced a note of bitterness into the conversation.* 3 to bring (new laws, PROCEDURES, etc.) into practice or use; INSTITUTE: *The government has introduced a ban on the advertising of cigarettes.* 4 to be a sign that (something) is about to happen; signal the start of: *An enormous orchestral crescendo introduces the climax of the opera.*

**introduce sthg. into sthg.** *phr v* [T] *fml* to put (something) into (something): *He introduced the pipe into the hole.*

**in-tro-duc-tion** /,ɪntrə'dʌkʃən/ *n* 1 [U (to, into)] the act of introducing or the fact of being introduced: *the introduction of a new brand of soap* | *The union opposed the introduction of the new technology because of the loss of jobs it would cause.* 2 [C (to) often pl.] an occasion of telling people each others' names: *Shall I make the introductions? Robert, this is Julia.* | (fig.) *This little book is a very good introduction to* (=provides the most important facts or principles of) *geometry.* 3 [C (to)] a written or spoken explanation at the beginning of a book or speech: *The introduction tells you how to use the book.* | *In the chairman's brief introduction she told us a little about the speaker's work.* — see PREFACE (USAGE) 4 [C] a type of plant or animal that was originally brought from another part of the world: *The potato is an introduction; it didn't use to grow here.*

**in-tro-duc-to-ry** /,ɪntrə'dʌktəri-/ *adj* which happens or is said at the beginning to explain or advertise what is to follow: *The chairman made a few introductory remarks.* | *introductory courses in computer programming*

**introductory of-fer** /,ɪntrə'dʌktəri-/ *n* a special deal, such as a reduced price or an increased quantity, which is offered for a short time on a new product, to encourage people to buy it



**in-tro-spec-tion** /,intrə'spekʃən/ *n* [U] the habit of looking into one's own thoughts and feelings to find out their real meaning, the reasons for them, etc. Introspection has been considered an important method in **PSYCHOLOGY** and **LINGUISTICS**.

**in-tro-spec-tive** /,intrə'spektɪv/ *adj* tending to think (too) deeply about oneself — **~ly** *adv*

**in-tro-vert** /'intrəvɜ:t||-3:rɪ/ *n* a person of an introverted type — compare **EXTROVERT**

**in-tro-vert-ed** /'intrəvɜ:tɪd||-3:r-/ *adj* concerning oneself with one's own thoughts, acts, personal life, etc., rather than spending much time sharing activities with others: *I like Bill, but he's rather introverted.* — **version** /,intrə'vɜ:ʃən||-vɜ:rʒən/ *n* [U]

**in-trude** /ɪn'tru:d/ *v* [(into, on, upon)] **1** [I] to enter unwanted or unasked: *I don't want to intrude (on you) if you're busy.* | *It would be very insensitive to intrude upon their private grief.* **2** [T] *fml* to bring in, esp. without good reason or permission: *A translator shouldn't intrude his own opinions into what he's translating.* — compare **OBTRUDE**

**in-trud-er** /ɪn'tru:də/ *n* a person who has come in unasked and usu. secretly, esp. one intending to steal — compare **INTERLOPER**

**in-tru-sion** /ɪn'tru:ʒən/ *n* [(on, upon)] **1** [U] the act of intruding **2** [C] something that intrudes on or interrupts something: *I have so many intrusions on my time that it's difficult to get my work done.* | *These questions are an intrusion upon people's privacy.*

**in-tru-sive** /ɪn'tru:sɪv/ *adj* *derog* or *tech* tending to intrude: *intrusive neighbours* | *Some people pronounce an intrusive "r" at the end of "law" in "law and order".*

**in-trust** /ɪn'trast/ *v* [T] to ENTRUST

**in-tu-it** /ɪn'tju:ɪt||-tu:z-, -'tju:z-/ *v* [I;T] to get knowledge (of) by intuition

**in-tu-i-tion** /,ɪntju:'ɪʃən||-tu:, -tju-/ *n* **1** [U] the power of understanding or knowing something without reasoning or learned skill: *My intuition told me he wasn't to be trusted.* | *"How did you know that, Jane?" "Woman's intuition!"* **2** [C] an example of this, or a piece of knowledge that results: [+*(that)*] *She had an intuition that her friend was ill.* — compare **INSTINCT**

**in-tu-i-tive** /ɪn'tju:ɪtɪv||-tu:z-, -'tju:z-/ *adj* *usu.* *apprec* showing or formed by intuition: *She's a very intuitive person.* | *He seemed to have an intuitive knowledge of how I was feeling.* — **~ly** *adv* — **~ness** *n* [U]

**In-u-it, Innu-it** /'ɪnju:ɪt, 'ɪnu:ɪt/ *n* **Inuit** or **Inuits** [C] **1** (a member of) a race of people living in the icy northern part of N America. This is thought to be a better word for Eskimo. — see picture at **ESKIMO** **2** [U] the language of these people

**in-un-date** /'ɪnəndeɪt/ *v* [T (with) often *pass.*] to flood over in large amounts, esp. so as to cover: *The river overflowed and inundated the village.* | (fig.) *After winning the competition, I was inundated with requests for money.* — **~dation** /,ɪnən'deɪʃən/ *n* [C;U]

**in-ure** /ɪ'njʊə/ *v*

**inure** sbdy. to sthg. *phr v* [T] to get used to (something unpleasant) by long experience: *Nurses gradually become inured to the sight of people in pain/to people suffering.*

**in-vade** /ɪn'veɪd/ *v* **1** [I;T] to go or come into and attack, so as to take control of (a country, city, etc.): *Hitler invaded Poland in 1939.* | (fig.) *These microorganisms can easily invade diseased tissue.* | (fig.) *Holidaymakers invade the seaside towns (=enter them in large numbers) in summer.* | (fig.) *Doubts invaded his mind.* **2** [T] *derog* to enter into and spoil: *The motorbikes invaded the calm of the summer afternoon.* — see also **INVASION** — **vader** *n*

**in-val-id<sup>1</sup>** /ɪn'vælɪd/ *adj* not correct or correctly expressed, esp. in law; not (any longer) suitable for use: *Your arguments are invalid.* | *Your ticket has passed its expiry date, so it is now invalid.* — **~ly** *adv*

**in-val-id<sup>2</sup>** /'ɪnvəlɪd, -lɪd||-lɪd/ *n* a person who is disabled or suffers from habitual ill-health: *He never fully recovered, and spent the rest of his life as an invalid.* — **invalid** *adj*: *my invalid mother*

**invalid<sup>3</sup>** *v*

**invalid** sbdy. ↔ **out** *phr v* *BrE* [T (of) *usu. pass.*] to allow (someone) to leave esp. a military force because of ill-health: *He was invalidated out of the army when he lost the sight of one eye.*

**in-val-i-date** /ɪn'vælɪdeɪt/ *v* [T] to make (something) invalid; show that (something) is not correct: *The fact that there is almost no critical discussion of his paintings invalidates this book's claims to be the standard work on Blake.* — **~dation** /ɪn,vælɪ'deɪʃən/ *n* [U]

**invalid chair** /'ɪn-vəl-ˌtʃeə/ *n* *BrE* a WHEELCHAIR

**in-val-id-i-ty** /,ɪnvə'lɪdɪti/ *n* [U] **1** the state of being **INVALID<sup>1</sup>**: *the invalidity of her arguments* **2** the state of being an **INVALID<sup>2</sup>**: *an invalidity pension*

**invalidity ben-e-fit** /-ˌbɛn-ɪfɪt/ *n* [C;U] (in Britain) a payment made by the government to someone who has been unable to work because of illness for more than a certain length of time

**in-val-ua-ble** /ɪn'væljʊəbəl/ *adj* [(for, to)] *apprec* too valuable for the worth to be measured; extremely useful: *An electric drill would have been invaluable for this job.* | *your invaluable help* | *His advice has been invaluable to the success of the project.* — see **VALUABLE** (**USAGE**)

**in-var-i-a-ble** /ɪn'veəriəbəl/ *adj* which cannot or does not vary or change: *an invariable quantity* | *She came to see me with the invariable request (=the request she always makes) for a loan.* — **~bility** /ɪn'veəriə'bɪlɪti/ *n* [U]

**in-var-i-a-bly** /ɪn'veəriəbli/ *adv* **1** in an invariable way **2** always: *It invariably rains when I go there.*

**in-va-sion** /ɪn'veɪʒən/ *n* an act of invading (**INVADE**), esp. an attack in war when the enemy spreads into and tries to control a country, city, etc.: *the invasion of Normandy* — **~sive** /'veɪsɪv/ *adj*: *invasive cancer cells*

**invasion of priv-a-cy** /-ˌprɪv-əˈsi-/ *n* an **INTRUSION** into the personal affairs of another person: *Opening my letter was an inexcusable invasion of privacy.*

**in-vec-tive** /ɪn'vektɪv/ *n* [S;U] *fml* (a) forceful attacking speech used for blaming someone for something and often including swearing: *They cringed under the force of his withering invective.*

**in-veigh** /ɪn'veɪ/ *v*

**inveigh** against sthg./sbdy. *phr v* [T] *fml* to attack strongly with words: *The speaker was inveighing against the evils of drink.*

**in-vei-gle** /ɪn'veɪgəl, ɪn'vɪz-||ɪn'veɪ-/ *v* [T] to obtain by deceit or tricks: *I inveigled fifty bucks from her with my hard luck story.*

**inveigle** sbdy. into sthg. *phr v* [T+obj+v-ing] to trick (someone) into (doing something) by persuading (them) cleverly

**in-vent** /ɪn'vent/ *v* [T] **1** to make or produce (esp. a new or useful thing or idea) for the first time: *Alexander Graham Bell invented the telephone in 1876.* **2** to think of (a story, lie, etc.) esp. in order to deceive; produce (something untrue or unreal): *They invented a very convincing alibi.* | *He invented a hundred reasons why he couldn't go.*

▷ **USAGE** You **discover** something that existed before but was not known, such as a place or a fact. You **invent** something that did not exist before, such as a machine or a method: *They discovered oil in the North Sea.* | *Who invented the computer?* ◁

**in-ven-tion** /ɪn'venʃən/ *n* **1** [U] the act of inventing: *the invention of the telephone* **2** [C] something invented: *The telephone is a wonderful invention.* | *The whole story is a complete invention; I don't believe a word of it!*

**in-ven-tive** /ɪn'ventɪv/ *adj* *apprec* having or showing the ability to invent or think in new and different ways: *an inventive person/mind* — **~ly** *adv* — **~ness** *n* [U]

**in-ven-tor** /ɪn'ventə/ *n* a person who invents something new, esp. one whose job is inventing things

**in-ven-tory** /'ɪnvəntri||-tɔ:ri/ *n* **1** [(of)] a list, esp. one of all the goods in a place: *An inventory of all the stock has to be made before the shop can be sold.* **2** *AmE* all the goods in one place; **STOCK**

**In-ver-ness** /,ɪnvə'nes-||-vər-/ a town in N Scotland which is known as the capital of the Highlands

**Inverness-shire** /,ɪnvə'nes-ʃə||-vər-/ a former **COUNTY** in N Scotland, now part of Highland **REGION**

**in-verse** /,ɪn'vɜ:s-||-3:rs-/ *n, adj* [A; the (of)] (something which is) opposite, esp. in order or position: *The inverse of 4 (=4<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>) is 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>.* | *Amazingly, his enthusiasm for a job seems to be in inverse relation/proportion to the amount he gets paid for it!* (=the less he gets paid, the more he likes it) — **~ly** *adv*



**in-ver-sion** /ɪnˈvɜːʃən||-ˈvɜːrʒən/ *n* 1 [U] the act of inverting 2 [C] a weather condition in which the air nearest the ground is cooler than the air above it. In cities this is connected with POLLUTION.

**in-vert** /ɪnˈvɜːt||-ˈvɜːrt/ *v* [T] *fml* or *tech* to put in the opposite position or order, esp. to turn upside down: *She caught the insect by inverting her cup over it.*

**in-ver-te-brate** /ɪnˈvɜːtəbrət, -breɪt||-ˈvɜːr-/ *n tech* a living creature which has no BACKBONE: *Worms and insects are invertebrates.* —compare VERTEBRATE —**invertebrate** *adj*

**inverted com-ma** /-ˌː... ˈˌ-/ *n BrE* 1 QUOTATION MARK 2 **inverted commas** *BrE* || **in quotes** *AmE*— (used, esp. in speech, for suggesting the opposite of what has just been said): *“Her friends, in inverted commas, all disappeared when she was in trouble.”* (=so they were not really her friends; compare, in writing: *Her “friends” all disappeared...*) —compare SO-CALLED

**inverted snob** /-ˌː... ˈˌ-/ *BrE* || **reverse snob** *AmE*— *n* someone who makes a show of disliking grand things and admiring things typical of low social class — **~bery** *n* [U]

**in-vest** /ɪnˈvest/ *v* 1 [I;T(in)] to put (money) to a particular use, e.g. by buying SHARES in a business, in order to make a profit: *Your bank manager will advise you how/where to invest your money.* | *He invested £1000 in an oil company.* | *You can make a lot of money by investing in antique furniture.* (=buying it so as to make a profit when the price goes up) | (fig.) *I’ve invested a lot of time and effort in this plan, and I don’t want it to fail.* 2 [T] *old use* to surround with soldiers or ships so as to prevent escape or entrance

**invest in sthg.** *phr v* [T] *infml* to buy: *I’ve decided to invest in a new car.*

**invest sbdy. with sthg.** *phr v* [T often pass.] *fml* or *lit* to give officially to (a person) (the outward signs of rank or power, or the power itself): *She was invested with full authority.* | (fig.) *Don’t invest his words with too much importance!* (=take them too seriously)

**in-vest-ed** /ɪnˈvestɪd/ *adj* [(in)] *AmE* strongly connected or interested, often in an emotional way: *I’m too invested in this situation to be objective about it.* | *She’s really invested in her boyfriend at the moment.*

**in-ves-ti-gate** /ɪnˈvestɪgeɪt/ *v* [I;T] to try to find out more information about; examine the reasons for (something), the character of (someone), etc.: *The police are investigating the crime.* | *He has been investigated and found blameless.* | *to investigate the causes of cancer* —**gator** *n* —**gation** /ɪnˈvestɪˈgeɪʃən/ *n* [C;U] (into) —**gative** /ɪnˈvestɪˈɡetɪv||-geɪtɪv/ *adj* : *investigative journalism* (=where newspapers try to find out things of public importance, uncover secrets, etc.)

**in-ves-ti-ture** /ɪnˈvestɪtʃə||-tʃʊə/ *n* a ceremony to accept someone into office, to give them certain powers, etc.: *the investiture of the Prince of Wales*

**in-vest-ment** /ɪnˈvestmənt/ *n* [(in)] 1 [U] the act of investing (INVEST (1)) 2 [C] something invested or in which one INVESTS: *She made an investment of £1000 in the new firm.* | *He sold off all his investments in South America.* | *The government is trying to attract more investment into the shipbuilding industry.* | *Antique furniture is a very safe/good investment.*

**investment com-pa-ny** /-ˌː... ˌˌ-/ *n* a company whose main business is to buy the SHARES or securities (SECURITY (5)) of other companies purely for investment purposes — compare HOLDING COMPANY

**investment trust** /-ˌː... ˌˌ-/ *n* an investment company that buys securities (SECURITY (5)) for its investors. Investment trusts are free to choose which securities they buy for their investors as their aim is to give investors the best possible income from their money.

**in-ves-tor** /ɪnˈvestə/ *n* a person who puts money to a particular use, e.g. by buying SHARES<sup>1</sup> (2) in a business, in order to make a profit: *We have to protect the interests of our investors.* | *a major investor in the new company*

**in-vet-e-rate** /ɪnˈvetərət/ *adj* [A] 1 firmly settled in a usu. bad habit; HABITUAL: *an inveterate liar* | (humor) *I’m afraid I’m an inveterate reader of trashy romances!* (=I know most people do not approve of them) 2 (of a habit) firmly established

**in-vid-i-ous** /ɪnˈvɪdiəs/ *adj* tending to cause ill-will or make people unnecessarily offended or jealous: *It would be invidious (of me) to single out* (=choose) *any one member*

*of the team for praise.* | *invidious comparisons* — **~ly** *adv* — **~ness** *n* [U]

**in-vi-gi-late** /ɪnˈvɪdʒləɪt/ *BrE* || **proctor** *AmE*— *v* [I;T] to watch over (an examination or the people taking it) in order to prevent dishonesty —**lator** *n* —**lation** /ɪnˌvɪdʒəˈleɪʃən/ *n* [U]

**in-vig-o-rate** /ɪnˈvɪgəreɪt/ *v* [T] to give a feeling of freshness and healthy strength to: *an invigorating swim before breakfast*

**in-vin-ci-ble** /ɪnˈvɪnsɪbəl/ *adj* *apprec* too strong to be defeated: *an invincible army* —**bly** *adv* —**bility** /ɪnˌvɪnsɪˈbɪləti/ *n* [U]

**in-vi-o-la-ble** /ɪnˈvaɪələbəl/ *adj fml* which is too highly respected to be attacked, changed, etc.; which cannot be violated (VIOLATE): *inviolable rights* —**bility** /ɪnˌvaɪələˈbɪləti/ *n* [U]

**in-vi-o-late** /ɪnˈvaɪələt/ *adj lit* not violated (VIOLATE): *The sanctity of the temple remains inviolate.*

**in-vis-i-ble** /ɪnˈvɪzɪbəl/ *adj* 1 [(to)] that cannot be seen; hidden from sight: *Germs are invisible to the naked eye.* | *The magician drank the mixture to make himself invisible.* | *He felt that he was powerless; some invisible force seemed to be directing his life.* | *a secret message written in invisible ink* (=which can be read only when heated or treated with a chemical) | *The house is invisible from the road, being surrounded by trees.* —compare INAUDIBLE 2 that is not usually recorded, esp. in statements of profit and loss: *Insurance is one of Britain’s most profitable invisible exports.* (=sale of services, rather than goods, abroad) —**bly** *adv* : *“Where’s the torn place?” “It’s been invisibly mended.”* —**bility** /ɪnˌvɪzɪˈbɪləti/ *n* [U]

**invisible earn-ings** /-ˌː... ˈˌ-/ *n* [P] income from e.g. the tourist trade, which is difficult to IDENTIFY separately from other earnings, as it is unclear when and by what people the money involved is spent

**invisible ink** /-ˌː... ˈˌ-/ *n* [U] a type of ink used for writing secret messages which is invisible until it is developed, usu. by heating. It is rarely used in real life but it is often written about in DETECTIVE stories.

**Invisible Man** /-ˌː... ˈˌ-/ *The* 1 (the main character in) a book by H. G. Wells which was later made into a film and a set of television programmes 2 a book by the American writer Ralph Ellison about the difficult life of a young black man in New York

**in-vi-ta-tion** /ɪnˈvɪteɪʃən/ *n* 1 [C (to)] a written or spoken request made to someone, asking them to come to a place, take part in an activity, etc.: *“Did you get an invitation to the party?” “Yes, I replied to it this morning.”* | *They sent out 200 invitations to their wedding.* [+to-v] *Their ambassador has accepted/declined* (=not accepted) *an invitation to meet with the president and discuss this issue.* | *I’ve got a standing/an open invitation to visit my friend in China.* (=I can go at any time) 2 [U] the act of inviting: *Entrance is by written invitation only.* 3 [S+to] an encouragement to an action, usu. a bad action; INDUCEMENT: *These enticing displays of goods in shops are an invitation to theft.* —see REFUSE (USAGE)

**in-vite**<sup>1</sup> /ɪnˈvaɪt/ *v* [T] 1 [(to)] to ask (someone) to come esp. to a social occasion: *We invited all our relatives (to the wedding).* | *Let’s invite some people over/round* (=to our house) *for a drink.* [+obj+to-v] *They’ve invited us to stay for the weekend.* | *She was polite but she didn’t invite me in.* | *The film was shown to a specially invited audience.* 2 to ask for or request, esp. politely or formally: *Questions were invited after the meeting.* | *to invite offers on a house/bids for a contract* [+obj+to-v] *The television interviewer invited the minister to comment on the recent events.* 3 to (seem to) encourage (something bad): *You’re just inviting trouble if you do that.* [+obj+to-v] *Some shops invite people to steal by making it too easy to take things.*

**invite**<sup>2</sup> /ɪnˈvaɪt/ *n infml* an invitation (1): *Did you get an invite to the mayor’s reception?*

**in-vit-ing** /ɪnˈvaɪtɪŋ/ *adj* attractive; encouraging one to take a suitable action: *an inviting prospect* | *an inviting-looking cake/armchair* — **~ly** *adv*

**in vi-tro** /ɪn ˈvɪtrəʊ/ *adj, adv Lat* (done) outside a living body, in a piece of scientific equipment —compare IN VIVO

**in vitro fer-ti-li-za-tion** /-ˌː... ˈˌ-/ *n* [U] a process in which a human OVUM is taken from a woman’s body and FERTILIZED by a man’s SPERM in a LABORATORY before being



- returned to the woman's body for the usual development. This has been used since 1978 as a way of helping people to have children if they have had difficulty in doing so. —see also TEST-TUBE BABY
- in vi-vo** /ɪn 'vi:vəʊ/ *adj, adv* *Lat* (done) inside a living body —compare IN VITRO
- in-vo-ca-tion** /ɪnvə'keɪʃən/ *n fml* **1** [U] the act of invoking: *their invocation of diplomatic immunity in order to escape arrest* **2** [C (to)] a form of words calling for help, esp. from God or the gods; prayer
- in-voice**<sup>1</sup> /'ɪnvɔɪs/ *n* a list of goods supplied or work done, stating quantity and price: *to make out/submit/process/pay an invoice*
- invoice**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T] **1** to prepare an invoice for (goods supplied or work done): *several orders waiting to be invoiced* **2** to send an invoice to (someone): *We will be invoicing you separately for these items.*
- in-voke** /ɪn'vəʊk/ *v* [T] *fml* **1** to call or bring into use (esp. a right or law)/or operation: *The government invoked "reasons of national security" in order to justify arresting its opponents.* **2** to make an urgent request to (a power, esp. God) for help **3** to request or beg for: *She invoked their help/their forgiveness.* **4** to call on and cause (spirits) to appear —see also INVOCATION
- in-vol-un-ta-ry** /ɪn'vɒləntəri||ɪn'vɑ:ləntəri/ *adj* made or done without conscious effort or intention: *involuntary muscular movements* | *He gave an involuntary smile/gasp/shudder.* —**tarily** *adv*
- in-volve** /ɪn'vɒlv||ɪn'vɑ:lv/ *v* [T *not usu. in progressive forms*] **1** [(in, with)] to cause (someone or oneself) to become connected or concerned: *Don't involve other people in your mad schemes!* | *If I were you I wouldn't get involved in their problems.* —compare IMPLICATE **2** [(in)] to have as a necessary part or result; ENTAIL: *I didn't realize putting on a play involved so much work|that so much work was involved in putting on a play.* [+*v-ing*] *The job involves travelling abroad for three months each year.* **3** (of a situation or action) to have as the people or things taking part: *The accident involved a bus and a truck.* | *a big police operation involving over a hundred officers.* —**ment** *n* [U (in, with)]: *The police are investigating his possible involvement in the crime.*
- in-volved** /ɪn'vɒlvd||ɪn'vɑ:lvd/ *adj* **1** having related parts which are difficult to understand; COMPLICATED: *a long and involved explanation* **2** [F (with)] (of a person) closely connected in relationships and activities with others, esp. in a personal or sexual way: *He's deeply involved with a married woman.*
- in-vul-ne-ra-ble** /ɪn'vʌlnərəbəl/ *adj* [(to)] impossible to harm by attack: *an invulnerable castle* | (fig.) *She seems invulnerable to criticism.* —**bly** *adv* —**bility** /ɪn'vʌlnərə-'bɪləti/ *n* [U]
- in-ward** /'ɪnwəd||-wərd/ *adj* [A] **1** (placed) on the inside **2** moving towards the inside **3** in or towards the mind or spirit: *a very inward-looking philosophy* | *a feeling of inward satisfaction* —compare OUTWARD —**ly** *adv*: *She smiled, but she was fuming (=very angry) inwardly.*
- in-wards** /'ɪnwədz||-wərdz/ also **inward** *AmE*— *adv* towards the inside: *They screamed as the walls fell inwards.* —opposite **outwards**
- I/O** /ɪaɪ 'əʊ/ *n, adj* [U;C] *tech* input/output; (of) the part of a computer that both receives information and after processing, sends the resulting information back or to another computer: *We're getting faster disk I/Os with this new software.* | *terminal I/O* | *an I/O fault*
- IOC** /ɪaɪ əʊ 'sɪz/ [the] International Olympic Committee; the governing body of the Olympic Games: *The IOC meets today to discuss the venue for the 1996 Olympics.*
- i-o-dine** /'aɪədi:n||-daɪn/ *n* [U] a simple substance (ELEMENT) that is used on wounds to prevent infection and in photography
- IOM** *written abbrev. for ISLE OF MAN*
- i-on** /'aɪən||'aɪən, 'aɪɑ:n/ *n* an atom which has been given (+) POSITIVE or (−) NEGATIVE force by the taking away or addition of an ELECTRON
- i-o-na** /ɪaɪ 'əʊnə/ an island off W Scotland, one of the Inner Hebrides, famous as the starting place in the 6th century of Scots Christianity, and the home of the Iona Community, an ECUMENICAL Christian group
- i-o-nes-co** /ɪzə'neskəʊ/, *Eu-gène* /ju:z'ʒi:n/ (1912– ) a modern French writer of plays born in Romania, who writes about the ABSURDITY of human life. His plays include *The Bald Prima Donna* (1956), *Rhinoceros* (1960), and *Exit the King* (1963)
- i-on-ic** /aɪ'ɒnɪk||aɪ'ɑ:z/ *adj* of, like, or typical of a style of ancient Greek building that is not very highly decorated: *an Ionic column* —compare CORINTHIAN, DORIC
- i-on-ize** also **-ise** *BrE* /'aɪənəɪz/ *v* [I;T] to (cause to) form ions —**ization** /ɪaɪənəɪ'zeɪʃən||-nə-/ *n* [U]
- i-on-i-zer** also **-iser** *BrE* /'aɪənəɪzə/ *n* a machine that produces negative IONS, which is believed to make the air inside a room or building more healthy. Ionizers are often used by people who suffer from ASTHMA.
- i-on-o-sphere** /aɪ'ɒnəsfiə||aɪ'ɑ:z/ [the] the part of the ATMOSPHERE which is between about 40 and 400 kilometres above the Earth. It is used in helping to send radio waves around the Earth, because radio waves will BOUNCE off the ionosphere (=hit it and return to Earth). —**spheric** /aɪ'ɒnəs'ferɪk||-ɑ:n-/ *adj*
- i-o-ta** /aɪ'əʊtə/ *n* [S (of) *usu. in negatives*] a very small amount; any at all: *There's not an iota of truth in what she said!*
- IOU** /ɪaɪ əʊ 'ju:z/ *n* "I owe you"; a piece of paper saying that one owes a certain amount of money to someone, with one's signature at the bottom: *I haven't any cash on me; can I give you an IOU for the £5?*
- IOW** *written abbrev. for ISLE OF WIGHT*
- i-o-wa** /'aɪəwə || 'aɪəʊə/ *written abbrev. IA* a state in the Midwest of the US. Iowa's economic life is based on farming and it is a leading producer of corn and SOYA BEANS —see colour map on pages 1374–5
- IPA** /ɪaɪ pi: 'eɪ/ *n* [(the)U] International Phonetic Alphabet; a system of special signs, each one of which represents a sound made in speech: *A form of (the) IPA is used for showing the pronunciations in this dictionary.*
- ipse, IPSE** /ɪps/ integrated project support environment; a set of system development tools used in the planning, development, and testing of some large computer systems
- ip-so fac-to** /ɪpsəʊ 'fæktəʊ/ *adv Lat fml* (used for showing that something else is known from or proved by the known facts) by the fact itself: *If she admits it is her signature on the cheque, she is ipso facto guilty.* —compare DE FACTO
- ip-swich** /'ɪpswɪtʃ/ the main town of Suffolk, E England, a port and industrial centre where the local government for Suffolk is based
- IQ** /ɪaɪ 'kju:z/ *n* intelligence quotient; a measure of human INTELLIGENCE, with 100 representing the average. A person's IQ is often determined using an IQ test consisting of problems related to letters, numbers, and shapes. These tests are quite CONTROVERSIAL because many people think they are biased (BIAS) against people of certain races: *She has an IQ of 127.*
- ir-** see WORD FORMATION
- IRA**<sup>1</sup> /ɪaɪ ɑ:r 'eɪ/ [the] Irish Republican Army; an illegal organization whose aim is to unite Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland as one republic. Part of the IRA, the PROVISIONAL IRA, is known for its use of TERRORIST methods. —see also SINN FEIN
- IRA**<sup>2</sup> /'aɪrə/ Individual Retirement Account; a personal PENSION plan available to American citizens and other people who live in the US
- i-ran** /ɪ'rɑ:n, -æn/ a country in SW Asia, officially known as the Islamic Republic of Iran and called Persia until 1935; capital Tehran; population 54,203,000 (1989). Iran is one of the leading producers of oil in the world. Iran was at war with Iraq from 1980 to 1988.
- i-ran-gate** /ɪ'rɑ:ngert, ɪ'ræn-/ also **the Iran-Con-tra Af-fair** /ɪ- '.../ a political SCANDAL in the US, uncovered in 1986 and 1987, in which members of the Reagan ADMINISTRATION were found to have sold weapons to Iran in exchange for the return of American HOSTAGES, and to have sent the profits to support the Contra REBELS in Nicaragua
- i-ra-ni-an** /ɪ'reɪniən/ *n* a person who comes from or whose parents come from Iran —**Iranian** *adj*
- i-raq** /ɪ'rɑ:k. -æk/ a country in SW Asia, officially called the Republic of Iraq, which is one of the leading



producers of oil in the Middle East; capital Baghdad; population 17,610,000 (1989). Iraq was at war with Iran from 1980 to 1988. In 1990, under Saddam Hussein, Iraq invaded (INVADE) Kuwait, which led to the GULF WAR. Iraq was forced to leave Kuwait in 1991.

**I-raqi** /ɪˈrɑːki, -æki/ *n* a person who comes from or whose parents come from Iraq — **Iraqi** *adj*

**i-ras-ci-ble** /ɪˈræsəbəl/ *adj fml* (of a person) tending to get angry easily: *an irascible old man* — **bly** *adv* — **bility** /ɪˈræsəˈbɪləti/ *n* [U]

**i-rate** /aɪˈreɪt/ *adj* very angry, esp. because one's moral feelings have been offended: *The television station got lots of complaints from irate viewers.* | *an irate letter* — **ly** *adv*

**ire** /aɪə/ *n* [U] *esp. lit* anger — **ful** /fʊl/ *adj*

**Ire-land** /ˈaɪələnd || ˈaɪər-/ the second largest island in the British Isles, which lies W of Scotland, England, and Wales, and is separated from them by the Irish Sea. It is divided politically into Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland (Eire). Northern Ireland is part of the British Isles and the majority of the people there are PROTESTANTS. The Republic of Ireland has been an independent state since 1921 and the majority of the people there are Roman Catholics. Ireland, esp. the Republic of Ireland, is known for its beautiful, green countryside. It is sometimes called the **Emerald Isle**. — see also NORTHERN IRELAND, REPUBLIC OF IRELAND; see colour map on page 818

**ir-i-des-cent** /ɪˈrɪdesənt/ *adj* showing changing colours as light falls on it: *the butterfly's iridescent wings* — **cence** *n* [U]

**ir-i-dol-o-gy** /ɪˈrɪdələdʒi/ -ˈdɑː/ *n* [U] a method of discovering an illness by looking carefully at the round coloured part of a person's eye

**i-ris** /ˈaɪərɪs/ *n* **1** a tall wild or garden flower with long thin leaves — see picture at FLOWER **2** the round coloured part of the eye which surrounds the black PUPIL<sup>2</sup> — see picture at EYE

**I-rish**<sup>1</sup> /ˈaɪərɪʃ/ *adj* of Ireland, its people, or their language

**Irish**<sup>2</sup> *n* **1** [the +P] the people of Ireland **2** [U] also **Irish Gaelic** /ɪˈʃˌˈɡælək/ the Celtic language of Ireland

**Irish cof-fee** /ɪˈʃˌˈkɒfi/ *n* [C;U] coffee with cream and WHISKY added

**Irish Guards** /ɪˈʃˌˈɡɑːdz/ [the+P] a REGIMENT (=large division of men) in the British army that is part of the GUARDS

**Irish joke** /ɪˈʃˌˈdʒoʊk/ *n* a joke about an Irish person or people in which they appear to be quite stupid. Such jokes are usu. told by English people and are considered offensive, esp. by Irish people themselves.

**I-rish-man** /ˈaɪərɪʃmən/ **I-rish-wom-an** /-ˌwʊmən/fem. — *n* -men /mən/ a person who comes from or whose parents come from Ireland

**Irish Na-tion-al Lib-er-a-tion Ar-my** /ɪˈʃˌˈnæʃənəl lɪb-ər-ə-ˈteɪʃən ɑːr-ˌmi/ also **INLA** *abbrev.* — [the] an illegal organization which wants the two parts of Ireland to be united in one state, and which uses violence to achieve this

**Irish Re-pub-lic** /ɪˈʃˌˈrɪpəbəlɪk/ [the] the REPUBLIC OF IRELAND

**Irish Re-pub-li-can Ar-my** /ɪˈʃˌˈrɪpəbəlɪkən ɑːr-ˌmi/ [the] the IRA

**Irish Sea** /ɪˈʃˌˈsiː/ [the] part of the Atlantic Ocean between Great Britain and Ireland — see colour map on page 818

**Irish stew** /ɪˈʃˌˈstjuː/ *n* [C;U] a dish consisting of meat, potatoes, and onions which have been boiled together

**Irish whis-key** /ɪˈʃˌˈwɪski/ *n* a strong alcoholic drink made in Ireland, usu. from MALT or BARLEY, by a process of DISTILLATION. Irish whiskey is considered to taste different from Scotch whisky, and is always spelt differently.

**irk** /ɜːk||ʒːrk/ *v* [T] *infml* to annoy; trouble: *It irks me to have to admit it, but he was quite right.*

**irk-some** /ɜːksəm||ʒːrk-/ *adj* troublesome or annoying: *irksome duties*

**i-ron**<sup>1</sup> /ˈaɪən||ˈaɪərn/ *n* **1** [U] a very common and useful metal that is a simple substance (ELEMENT), is MAGNETIC, is used in the making of steel, and is found in very small quantities in certain foods and in the blood: *iron gates* | *an iron foundry* | *iron ore* | *a diet low in iron* | *iron pills* — see also CAST IRON, WROUGHT IRON **2** [C] a heavy object with a flat bottom and a handle on top, shaped in a point at the front, which is heated, usu. electrically, and used for making cloth and clothes smooth — see picture at SYMBOL **3** [C] any of the set of nine GOLF CLUBS (numbered

from one to nine) which have metal heads with sloping faces: *a six iron* (=the one with the number six) | *an iron shot* (=made using an iron) — compare WOOD (3) **4** have several irons in the fire to have various different interests, activities, or plans at the same time **5** the iron hand/fist in the velvet glove a very firm intention hidden under a gentle appearance — see also IRONS, CLIMBING IRON, rule with a rod of iron (RULE<sup>2</sup>), strike while the iron's hot (STRIKE<sup>1</sup> (20))

**iron**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T] to make (clothes) smooth with an IRON: *She ironed her blouse.* — see also IRONING

**iron** sthg. ↔ **out** *phr v* [T] **1** to remove by ironing: *She ironed out the wrinkles in her skirt.* **2** *infml* to remove or find an answer to: *It didn't take long to iron out the difficulties.*

**iron**<sup>3</sup> *adj* [A] *usu. apprec* very strong and firm: *a man of iron will/resolve*

**Iron Age** /ɪˈrɒn ˌeɪdʒ/ [the] the time about 3000 years ago when iron was used for making tools, weapons, etc., which was a more advanced period than the Bronze Age before it — compare BRONZE AGE, STONE AGE

**I-ron-bridge** /ˈaɪənbrɪdʒ||-ərn-/ a town in Shropshire, W England, where iron was first produced in 1709, and which became a centre of the INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION

**iron-clad** /ɪˈrɒn ˌklæd/ *adj* very strong; unbreakable: *an iron-clad alibi*

**Iron Cur-tain** /ɪˈrɒn ˌkɜːrtən/ [the] the name formerly given to the western border between the Communist countries of Eastern Europe and the rest of the world: *Many Western pop groups were popular behind the Iron Curtain.* — compare BAMBOO CURTAIN

**iron-grey** /ɪˈrɒn ˌɡreɪ/ *adj* dark grey

**i-ron-ic** /aɪˈrɒnɪk||aɪˈrɑːk/ also **i-ron-i-cal** /-kəl/ — *adj* expressing IRONY: *How ironic that he should have been invited to play for the England team on the very day that he broke his leg.*

**i-ron-i-cal-ly** /aɪˈrɒnɪkli||aɪˈrɑːk-/ *adv* **1** in an ironic way: *She smiled ironically.* **2** it is ironic (that): *Ironically, his cold got better on the last day of his holiday.* — compare PARADOXICALLY

**i-ron-ing** /ˈaɪənɪŋ||-ər-/ *n* [U] **1** the work of making cloth or clothes smooth with an iron: *He hates doing the ironing.* **2** cloth or clothes that need to be ironed or have been ironed: *a basket of ironing*

**ironing board** /ˈaɪənɪŋ bɔːd/ *n* a long narrow usu. folding table on which clothes are spread to be ironed

**Iron La-dy** /ɪˈrɒn ˌlædi/ [the] a NICKNAME given to Margaret Thatcher while she was Prime Minister of Britain, because of her forceful style of government

**iron lung** /ɪˈrɒn ˌlʌŋ/ *n* a machine for helping some ill people to breathe by forcing air into and out of their lungs

**i-ron-mon-ger** /ˈaɪənˌmɒŋɡər||ˈaɪənˌmɒŋ-, -ˌmɑːŋ-/ *n* *BrE* a person who owns or works in a shop (ironmonger's) which sells HARDWARE (1), esp. if made of metal: *I bought a spade at the ironmonger's.*

**iron-on** /ɪˈrɒn ˌɒn/ *adj* that can be placed on material using a hot iron: *iron-on stickers of cartoon characters for children's clothes*

**iron ra-tions** /ɪˈrɒn ˌreɪʃnz/ *n* [P] small amounts of substances with high food value, such as chocolate, carried by soldiers, climbers, etc., for use in an EMERGENCY

**i-rons** /ˈaɪənz||ˈaɪərnz/ *n* [P] *esp. lit* a chain or chains to keep a prisoner from moving: *The captain ordered the mutinous sailors to be clapped in irons.* (=put in chains)

**i-ron-work** /ˈaɪənwɜːk||ˈaɪərnwɜːrk/ *n* articles made of iron

**i-ron-works** /ˈaɪənwɜːks||ˈaɪərnwɜːrks/ *n* **ironworks** [C+sing./pl. v] a factory for preparing iron or steel and making it into heavy objects

**i-ron-y** /ˈaɪərəni/ *n* **1** [U] use of words which are clearly opposite to one's meaning, usu. either in order to be amusing or to show annoyance (e.g. by saying "What charming behaviour" when someone has been rude) — compare SARCASM **2** [C;U] a course of events or a condition which has the opposite result from what is expected, usu. a bad result: *We went on holiday to Greece because we thought the weather was certain to be good, and it rained almost every day; the irony of it is, that at the same time there was a heat-wave back at home!* — compare PARADOX; see also DRAMATIC IRONY



**ir-o-quois** /'ɪrəkwɔɪ/ *n* [C;the+P] (a member of) a Native American people formerly living in New York state —see NATIVE AMERICAN (CULTURAL NOTE)

**ir-ra-di-ate** /ɪ'reɪdiət/ *v* [T] 1 *esp. lit* to make bright by throwing light on: (fig.) *His little face was irradiated by happiness.* 2 *tech* to treat with X-RAYS or similar beams of force: *The surgeons irradiated the tumour.* —see also RADIATION —**ation** /ɪ'reɪdi'eɪʃən/ *n*

**irradiation treat-ment** /... '... / *n* [U] the treatment of food with X-RAYS to kill bacteria and make it last longer

**ir-ra-tion-al** /ɪ'ræʃənəl/ *adj* not (done by) using reason; against reasonable behaviour: *After taking the drug she became quite irrational.* | *a completely irrational decision* —*ly adv* —**ity** /ɪ'ræʃə'nælɪti/ *n* [U]

**ir-rec-on-ci-la-ble** /ɪ'rekən'saɪləbəl/ *adj* [(with)] which cannot be settled or brought into agreement together or with something else: *irreconcilable differences of opinion* | *irreconcilable enemies* | *Holding a government post was irreconcilable with his outside commercial activities, so he had to resign.* —*bly adv*

**ir-re-cov-e-ra-ble** /ɪ'reɪ'kʌvərəbəl/ *adj* which cannot be got back or recovered (RECOVER): *irrecoverable debts* —*bly adv*

**irredeemable** /ɪ'reɪ'di:məbəl/ *adj* 1 *fml* which nothing can take the place of: *an irredeemable loss* 2 *fml derog* too bad to be put right; hopeless: *the irredeemable awfulness of the performance* 3 (of STOCK (3)) which cannot be exchanged for the original sum paid, but only for the regular interest payments —*bly adv*

**ir-re-du-ci-ble** /ɪ'reɪ'dju:səbəl/ || -'du:-/ *adj fml* which cannot be made smaller or simpler: *the irreducible minimum* —*bly adv*

**ir-re-fu-ta-ble** /ɪ'reɪ'fju:təbəl, ɪ'refjʊtəbəl/ *adj fml* too strong to be disproved: *an irrefutable argument* —*bly adv*

**ir-reg-u-lar** /ɪ'regjʊlə/ *adj* 1 (of shape) having different-sized parts; uneven; not level: *an irregular polygon* | *an irregular coastline* | *She has irregular features.* (her face is not the same on both sides) 2 (of time) at unevenly separated points; not equal: *He visits us at irregular intervals.* | *She dislikes working such irregular hours.* 3 *fml* not according to the usual or accepted rules, habits, etc.: *But there's no official stamp on your permit; this is most irregular!* | *His behaviour is rather irregular.* (=immoral or unacceptable) 4 not continuous: *Her work as an actress is so irregular that she supplements her income by working in a bar.* 5 (in grammar) not following the usual pattern: *an irregular verb* 6 *AmE euph* suffering from CONSTIPATION —*ly adv*

**irregular**² *n* a soldier in an army which is not the official army of a country but has been brought together for a special purpose

**ir-reg-u-lar-i-ty** /ɪ'regjʊ'lærɪti/ *n* 1 [U] the state of being irregular: *the irregularity of the coastline* 2 [C] something irregular: *You'll need to flatten out the irregularities in the lawn with a roller.* 3 [C;U] *fml euph* something that goes against the rules, esp. (an act of) wrongdoing: *He couldn't explain the irregularities in the balance sheet, and I suspect him of taking the money.* 4 [U] *AmE euph* CONSTIPATION

**ir-rel-e-vance** /ɪ'relɪvəns/ also **ir-rel-e-van-cy** /-vənsi/ — *n* 1 [U] the state of being irrelevant 2 [C] an irrelevant remark or fact

**ir-rel-e-vant** /ɪ'relɪvənt/ *adj* [(to)] not having any real connection with or relation to something else: *If he can do the job well, his age is irrelevant.* (=does not matter) —*ly adv*

**ir-re-li-gious** /ɪ'reɪ'lɪdʒəs/ *adj fml derog* against religion or showing a lack of religious feeling

**ir-re-me-di-a-ble** /ɪ'reɪ'mɪdiəbəl/ *adj fml* which cannot be put right: *irremediable damage* —*bly adv*

**ir-rep-a-ra-ble** /ɪ'repərəbəl/ *adj* which cannot be repaired or put right: *The storm caused irreparable damage to the house.* | *Her death is an irreparable loss to the firm.* —*bly adv*

**ir-re-place-a-ble** /ɪ'reɪ'pleɪsəbəl/ *adj* too special, unusual, or valuable for anything else to take its place: *Don't break my Ming vase — it's irreplaceable!* | *We'll miss him when he leaves the company, but no one's irreplaceable.* (=someone else will be able to do his job)

**ir-re-pres-si-ble** /ɪ'reɪ'presɪbəl/ *adj* too full of force, excitement, etc. to be stopped or held back: *irrepressible cheerfulness/good humour/high spirits* | *an irrepressible talker* —*bly adv*

**ir-re-proa-cha-ble** /ɪ'reɪ'prəʊtʃəbəl/ *adj fml* so good that no blame at all could be given; faultless: *His conduct was irreproachable.* —*bly adv*

**ir-re-sis-ti-ble** /ɪ'reɪ'zɪstɪbəl/ *adj* 1 too nice, charming, attractive, etc. to refuse; impossible to dislike or RESIST: *What irresistible chocolates!* | *an irresistible little baby* 2 so strong or powerful that one cannot help being influenced by it: *the irresistible force of his logic* —*bly adv*

**ir-res-o-lute** /ɪ'rezələʊt/ *adj fml derog* (typical of a person who is) unable to make decisions and take action; weak in character —*ly adv*: *He hesitated, then moved irresolutely towards the door.* —**lution** /ɪ'rezə'lu:ʃən/ *n* [U]

**ir-re-spec-tive** /ɪ'reɪ'spektɪv/ *adv* irrespective of without regard to: *a film that can be enjoyed by anyone, irrespective of age* (=however old they are) —compare REGARDLESS (2)

**ir-re-spon-si-ble** /ɪ'reɪ'spɒnsɪbəl/ || -'spɑ:n-/ *adj derog* having or showing lack of ability to behave carefully, think of the effect of one's actions on others, etc.: *It was irresponsible of her to leave the children by themselves in the swimming pool.* | *irresponsible driving* —*bly adv* —**bility** /ɪ'reɪspɒnsɪ'bɪlɪti/ || -spɑ:n-/ *n* [U]

**ir-re-trie-va-ble** /ɪ'reɪ'tri:vəbəl/ *adj* that cannot be got back or put back into the original better state: *an irretrievable loss* | *We were four-nil down with five minutes to go, so the game looked completely irretrievable.* (=we would certainly lose it) | *They gave the irretrievable breakdown of their marriage as grounds for divorce.* —*bly adv*

**ir-rev-e-rent** /ɪ'revərənt/ *adj* showing lack of respect for important people or organizations: *It would be considered very irreverent for a man not to take his hat off in church.* | *the irreverent humour of the students' magazine* —*ly adv* —**rence** *n* [U]

**ir-re-ver-si-ble** /ɪ'reɪ'vɜ:sɪbəl/ || -'zɜ:r-/ *adj* which cannot be changed to bring things back to the way they were before: *an irreversible judgment* —*bly adv*

**ir-rev-o-ca-ble** /ɪ'revəkəbəl/ *adj* that cannot be changed once it has been started or made: *an irrevocable decision* —*bly adv*

**ir-ri-gate** /ɪ'rɪgeɪt/ *v* [T] 1 to supply water to (dry land): *They have built canals to irrigate the desert.* 2 *med* to wash (a wound) with a flow of liquid —**gable** /ɪ'rɪgəbəl/ *adj* —**gation** /ɪ'reɪ'geɪʃən/ *n* [U]

**ir-ri-ta-ble** /ɪ'rɪtəbəl/ *adj* tending to get angry at small things; easily annoyed: *He gets irritable when he's got toothache.* —see ANGRY (USAGE) —*bly adv* —**bility** /ɪ'rɪtə'bɪlɪti/ *n* [U]

**irritable bow-el syn-drome** /ɪ'... '... / *n* [U] a medical problem of the INTESTINE which causes pain and discomfort and sometimes DIARRHOEA

**ir-ri-tant** /ɪ'rɪtənt/ *n, adj* (something) which irritates

**ir-ri-tate** /ɪ'rɪteɪt/ *v* [T] 1 to make angry or impatient: *Her habit of biting her nails irritates me.* | *irritating delays* 2 to make painful and sore: *Wool irritates my skin.* —see AGGRAVATE (USAGE), ANNOY (USAGE)

**ir-ri-ta-tion** /ɪ'rɪ'teɪʃən/ *n* 1 [C;U] (an example of) the act of irritating or the state of being irritated: *the irritations of driving in busy towns* | *"Don't be so silly!" he said with some irritation.* 2 [C] a sore place or feeling: *a skin irritation*

**ir-rupt-ion** /ɪ'rʌpʃən/ *n* [(into)] *fml* a sudden violent rush (of people or force) into a place

**IRS** /aɪ ɑ:r 'es/ *n* [the] see INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE

**Ir-ving** /'ɜ:vɪŋ/ || 'zɜ:r-, Washington (1783–1859) an American writer remembered mostly for his stories set in New England, including *Rip Van Winkle* and *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow*

**is** /s, z, əz; strong ɪz/ 3rd person sing. present tense of BE: *She is living here now.* | *Here he is!* | *Is it 6:00 yet?* —see NOT (USAGE)

**I-saac** /'aɪzək/ the son of Abraham and the subject of many stories in the Bible

**I-sai-ah** /aɪ'zaɪə/ 1 a Hebrew PROPHET of the 8th century BC, who said that God would send a ruler to save the Jews 2 a book in the Old Testament



**ISBN** /ˌaɪ es bɪz 'en/ *n* International Standard Book Number; the number which is printed on a book, usu. on the back cover, or (on a HARDBACK) inside, to avoid confusion with other books

**Is-car-i-ot** /ɪ'skæriət/, Judas see JUDAS

**ISDN** /ˌaɪ es diː 'en/ *n* [U] Integrated Services Digital Network; a system of international telephone lines to be used for all types of TELECOMMUNICATIONS, including voice, DATA, FAX, and others —compare PSTN

**I-seult** /ɪ'suːlt/ see TRISTRAM AND ISOLDE

**I-sis**¹ /ˈaɪsɪs/ [*the*] the river Thames, at and UPSTREAM of Oxford

**Isis**² the most important Egyptian nature-goddess, the sister and wife of Osiris

**Is-lam** /ˈɪslɑːm, 'ɪz-, ɪs'ləːm/ *n* [U] 1 the Muslim religion, started by Muhammad 2 the people and countries that practise this religion — ~ **ic** /ɪz'ləmɪk, ɪs-/ *adj*

**Is-lam-a-bad** /ɪz'ləmæbəd, ɪs-/ the capital city of Pakistan

**Is-lam-ic Ji-had** /ɪz,læmɪk dʒɪ'hæd, ɪs-||-'hæd/ an Islamic organization extremely opposed to what it sees as Western IMPERIALISM, responsible for the kidnapping (KIDNAP¹) of several Westerners who were kept HOSTAGE for a number of years and finally RELEASED in 1991 —see also JIHAD

**is-land** /ˈaɪlənd/ *n* 1 a piece of land surrounded by water: Britain is an island. | a small island in the middle of the lake | the Maldivé Islands | the island of Madagascar | (fig.) a little island of peace in the noisy city 2 also **traffic island**, also **safety island** *AmE*— a raised place in the middle of the road where people crossing can wait for traffic to pass 3 **no man is an island** *quote* a phrase from a poem by John Donne, used when saying that everyone needs friends and the support of other people

**is-land-er** /ˈaɪləndə/ *n* a person who lives on an island: The islanders live by fishing.

**Is-lay** /ˈaɪlə, -leɪ/ an island off W Scotland, in the Inner Hebrides, much visited by tourists and famous for its WHISKY

**isle** /aɪl/ *n* poet or used in names an island: the Scilly Isles

**Isle of Dogs** /ɪ·'·'·/ [*the*] an area of E London just N of, and surrounded on three sides by, the river Thames. The Isle of Dogs is part of the area generally known as Docklands.

**Isle of Man** /ɪ·'·'·/ also **Man**— [*the*] (*abbrev.* IOM) an island in the Irish Sea which is under British control but which has its own government and laws. Many rich British people live or keep their money on the Isle of Man because taxes are lower there than in the rest of Britain. —see also TYNWALD and colour map on page 818

**Isle of Wight** /ɪ·'·'·/ [*the*] (*abbrev.* IOW) an island off the coast of S England, and an English COUNTY. The Isle of Wight is a popular place for family holidays and for sailing. —see also COWES and see colour map on page 818

**is-let** /ˈaɪlət/ *n* esp. tech or old use a small island

**Is-ling-ton** /ˈɪzlɪŋtən/ a BOROUGH in NE central London

**Is-m** /ɪzəm/ *n* *infml*, sometimes *derog* a set of usu. political or religious ideas or principles, with a name ending in -ism: socialism, communism, and all the other isms of the modern world

-ism see WORD FORMATION

**is-n't** /ɪzənt/ *short for*: is not: The tea isn't ready. | It's Monday, isn't it? | "He's 40." "He isn't, is he?"

**ISO**¹ /ˌaɪ es 'əʊ/ [*the*] International Standards Organization; a group with members from about 70 countries which sets standards of size, shape, performance, etc. of a wide range of industrial and CONSUMER goods. At present it is very active in computer and TELECOMMUNICATIONS products. —compare BSI, ANSI

**ISO**² *AmE abbrev. for*: in search of (in personal advertisements): Single Pisces man ISO female 20-30.

**i-so-bar** /ˈaɪsəbɑː/ *n* a line on a map joining places where the air pressure is the same

**i-so-late** /ˈaɪsəleɪt/ *v* [T (from)] 1 to keep apart; separate from others: Several villages have been isolated by the floods. | to isolate a child with an infectious disease | The radical group in the ruling party is becoming increasingly isolated. (=is losing support) 2 esp. tech to separate (one substance) from others so that it can be used or examined on its own: They have isolated the bacterium in its pure form. —compare INSULATE —**l-ation** /ˌaɪsə'leɪʃən/ *n* [U] :

living in complete isolation in the country | an isolation ward in a hospital (=for infectious patients) | a feeling of total isolation

**i-so-lat-ed** /ˈaɪsəleɪtɪd/ *adj* not near any others: a very isolated farmhouse (=far out in the country, away from other buildings or people) | Apart from a few isolated cases, (=rare ones, not happening in groups) we have managed to avoid delays.

**i-so-la-tion-is-m** /ˌaɪsə'leɪʃənɪzəm/ *n* [U] often *derog* the political principle that a country should not concern itself with the affairs of other countries or join international political organizations —**ist** *n*

**isolation pe-ri-od** /-ˈɪ.., -ˈɪ.. / *n* the length of time for which a person with an infectious illness should be kept apart from other people: The isolation period for German measles is seven days. —compare QUARANTINE

**I-sol-de** /ɪ'zɒldə||ɪ'zəʊl-/ see TRISTRAM AND ISOLDE

**i-sos-ce-les** /aɪ'sɒsəleɪz||-'sɑː-/ *adj* [A] tech (of a TRIANGLE) having two equal sides —compare EQUILATERAL, SCALENE, and see picture at TRIANGLE

**i-so-therm** /ˈaɪsəθɜːm||-θɜːrm/ *n* a line on a map joining places where the temperature is the same

**i-so-tope** /ˈaɪsətəʊp/ *n* any of two or more kinds of atom of a simple substance (ELEMENT) which are of the same chemical type but a different ATOMIC weight

**I-spy** /ɪ·'·'·/ *n* [U] a game, usu. played by children, in which an object which can be seen by the players is guessed from the first letter of its name. The person who chooses the object says "I spy, with my little eye, something beginning with [e.g.] 's'."

**Is-ra-el** /ˈɪzreɪl/ a country in the Middle East, bordered by Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, and Egypt; population 4,509,000 (1989). Israel was established as the home of the Jewish people in 1947. Before that it was part of Palestine. Many of the Arab states are opposed to the State of Israel and would not regard Jerusalem as the capital, although the Israelis do. There has been great trouble and often fighting and war in the region.

**Is-rae-li** /ɪz'reɪli/ *n* a person who comes or whose parents come from the state of Israel —**Israeli** *adj*

**Is-rael-ite** /ˈɪzrəlaɪt||'ɪzriə-/ *n*, *adj* (in the Bible) (a person) of the ancient kingdom of Israel

**is-sue**¹ /ɪ'fʊz, 'ɪsjuː||ɪ'fʊz/ *n* 1 [C] a subject to be talked about, argued about, or decided: Parliament will debate the nationalization issue next week. | one of the key issues in the election campaign | I don't want to make an issue of it. (=quarrel about it) 2 [C] something which is produced so as to be publicly sold or given out: The Christmas issue of the magazine had a picture of carol singers on its cover. | There's a new issue of stamps to commemorate the Royal Wedding. 3 [U] the act of coming out or being produced: I bought the new stamp the day of its issue. | (*fml*) the issue of blood from a wound 4 a company's SHARES¹ (2) 5 [U+*sing.*|*pl.* v] old use and law children (esp. in the phrase die without issue) 6 [C] *fml* what happens in the end; the result: to await the issue 7 at issue under consideration, esp. because of some doubt: Her ability is not at issue; it's her character I'm worried about. 8 take issue with *fml* to disagree with (a person) —see also RIGHTS ISSUE, SIDE ISSUE

**issue**² *v* [T] 1 to produce (esp. something printed and/or official): Banknotes of this design were first issued 20 years ago. | The government is expected to issue a statement about the crisis. 2 to give out or provide officially: Our new uniforms haven't been issued yet. [+*obj*+*with*] They issued the firemen with breathing equipment. [+*obj*+*to*] They issued breathing equipment to the firemen.

issue forth *phr v* [I] lit to go or come out

issue from sthg. *phr v* [T no pass.] *fml* to come or result from: smoke issuing from the chimneys | Our economic problems issue from a lack of investment.

**Is-tan-bul** /ɪstæn'bul/ a city in NW Turkey, formerly called Constantinople and in ancient times known as Byzantium

**isth-mus** /ɪsməs/ *n* a narrow piece of land with water on each side, that joins two larger pieces of land: the Isthmus of Panama

**I-su-zu** /ɪ:'suːzuː/ *tdmk* a Japanese company that makes motor vehicles esp. ones that are suitable for use on rough ground



**it** <sup>1</sup> /ɪt/ *pron* (used as subject or object) **1 a** that thing, group, idea, etc., already mentioned: *I picked up the plate and put it on the table.* | *"Whose coat is this?" "It's mine."* | *"Where's my dinner?" "The cat ate it."* | *The government has become very unpopular since it was elected.* | *They were all shouting; it (=the situation) was terrible.* | *"I've broken a plate." "It (=the breaking of the plate) doesn't matter."* **b** that person or animal whose sex is unknown or not thought to be important: *What a beautiful baby — is it a boy?* **2** that person: *"Who's that?" "It's me!"* | *"It's Harry!"* | *"It's the postman!"* —see THERE (USAGE<sup>2</sup>) **3 a** (used in the pattern *it+be+a noun or adjective*, for making a statement about esp. weather, time, or distance): *It's raining.* | *It's hot.* | *It's a beautiful day.* | *It's Thursday.* | *It'll soon be breakfast time.* | *It's not far to Paris.* | *It's 112 miles from London to Birmingham.* | *It's my turn next.* **b** that thing or situation not mentioned but understood by the speaker and the hearer: *I can't stand it (=this situation) any longer!* | *How's it (=your life, work, etc.) going?* | *The worst of it is that we'll have to get the repairs done again.* **4** (used as a subject or object in various verb patterns where the real subject or object comes later): *It makes me sick the way she's always complaining.* [+v-ing] *It's fun being a singer.* (=Being a singer is fun.) | *What's it like being married?* | *It's no use worrying.* | *It felt funny watching myself on television.* [+to-v] *It cost £800 to mend the roof.* (=The mending of the roof cost £800.) | *It proved difficult to reach an agreement.* | *It's easy for you to criticize, but could you do any better?* | *It surprised me to hear she was leaving.* | *It's important to continue with the experiment.* | *Would it be possible to borrow your car?* [+ (that)] *It's true that he stole the jewels.* (=he did steal them) | *It's a pity (that) you forgot.* | *It says in the paper that the game has been cancelled.* | *I take it that you don't agree with me.* (=I liked her kissing me.) | *I hate it when I have to speak in French on the phone.* | *It is said that she opposes this plan.* | *They kept it quiet that the President was dead.* [+wh-]if *Is it known where they went?* | *I liked it when she kissed me.* | *Does it matter if I don't wear a tie?* | *I can't help it if she's always late.* [it +be+adj+of] *It is very kind of you to help us.* (=In helping us, you are being very kind) | *It was silly of him to say that.* **5** (used as the subject of **seem**, **appear**, **happen**, or **look**): *It seems (that) she lost her way.* | *"She's drunk." "So it appears!"* | *As it happens, I know the person you mean.* | *Since it happened to be a nice day, we decided to go to the beach.* | *It looks as if we're going to be late.* **6** (used to make one part of the sentence more important) **a** (with the subject): *It was Jane who bought dinner yesterday.* (=I didn't buy it) **b** (with the object): *It was dinner that Jane bought yesterday.* (=she didn't buy LUNCH) **c** (with an adverb or PREPOSITIONAL PHRASE): *It was yesterday that Jane bought dinner.* (=not today) | *It was in London that I last saw her.* **7** *usu. infml* (used as a meaningless object of certain verbs): *They ran for it.* (=tried to escape) | *He lorded it over his friends.* (=behaved like a more important person) | *She's decided to leave her job and go it alone as a businesswoman.* **8** if it weren't for/hadn't been for without the help or existence of: *If it weren't for Tom, I wouldn't be alive today.* | *If it hadn't been for the snow, we could have got there much earlier.* **9** **That's it:** **a** That's complete; there's nothing more to come: *You can have one more sweet and that's it.* | *Is that it?* (=Is that all/everything?) **b** That's right: *Move the ladder for me — that's it!* —see also **catch it** (CATCH<sup>1</sup> (16)), **have had it** (HAVE<sup>1</sup> (3)), **have what it takes** (TAKE<sup>1</sup> (29))

**it**<sup>2</sup> *n* [U] **1** the most important person in a children's game, esp. the one who finds the others who are hiding **2** *old-fash* Italian VERMOUTH (only in the phrase **gin and it**) **3** *sl* the important moment: *This is it — I'll have to make my mind up now.* **4** *sl* a SEXUAL INTERCOURSE **b** *old-fash* for SEX APPEAL —see also **with it** (WITH)

**IT** /aɪ 'ti:/ *n* [U] INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

**i-tal-i-an** /ɪ'tæliən/ *n* **1** [C] a person who comes from or whose parents come from Italy **2** [U] the language of Italy —**Italian** *adj*

**Italian dres-sing** /-... 'sɪŋ/ *n* [U] a liquid poured on SALAD, usu. made from oil, VINEGAR, and HERBS which are typically used in Italian cookery

**i-tal-i-cize** also **-cise** *BrE* /ɪ'tælɪsaɪz/ *v* [T] to put or print (something) in italics

**i-tal-ics** /ɪ'tælɪks/ *n* [P;U] (the style of writing or printing with) sloping letters: *This example is printed in italics.*

—compare ROMAN —**italic** *adj*: *italic script* | *handwriting*

**Italo-** see WORD FORMATION

**It-a-ly** /'ɪtəli/ a country of Europe lying between the Adriatic and Mediterranean seas, with borders in the N with France, Switzerland, Austria, Slovenia, and Croatia; capital Rome; population 57,517,000 (1989). Italy is known as the place where the Renaissance began, and where many great painters lived and worked. It is now very popular with tourists.

**ITC** /aɪ ti: 'si:/ [*the*] Independent Television Commission; the organization which controls private television companies in Britain, which will replace the IBA in 1993

**itch**<sup>1</sup> /ɪtʃ/ *v* [I] **1** to cause or feel a slight uncomfortable soreness which makes one want to SCRATCH the skin: *The wound itches all the time.* | *I'm itching all over.* **2** **be itching to/for** *infml* to want very much to do something soon: *I'm itching to go.* | *I'm itching for them to leave so I can open my presents.*

**itch**<sup>2</sup> *n* [*usu. sing.*] **1** a feeling of itching **2** *infml* a strong desire: [+to-v] *an itch to travel* —see also SEVEN-YEAR ITCH

**itch-y** /'ɪtʃi/ *adj* feeling or causing an itch: *I felt itchy all over.* | *rough itchy woollen socks* —**iness** *n* [U]

**itchy feet** /-... 'i:/ *n* [P] *infml* the desire to travel or habit of wandering, esp. to other countries

**itchy palm** /-... 'i:/ also **itching palm**— *n infml* a great desire for money, esp. as (secret) payment for doing unfair favours

**it'd** /'ɪtəd/ *short for:* **1** it would: *It'd be better if I had more money.* **2** it had: *It'd been raining earlier that morning.*

**ITDG** /aɪ ti: di: 'dʒi:/ Intermediate Technology Development Group; a British CHARITY organization that helps people esp. in poor countries to develop small industries using INTERMEDIATE TECHNOLOGY

**i-tem**<sup>1</sup> /'aɪtəm/ *n* [(of)] **1** a single thing on a list or among a set: *The police examined several items of clothing.* (=several clothes) | *an interesting news item/item of news in today's paper* **2** *infml* a subject of GOSSIP, esp. two people who are thought to have a (secret) emotional or sexual relationship: *Have you noticed that Jill and Matt are absent on the same days? I wonder if they're an item.*

**item**<sup>2</sup> *adv fml, esp. old use* (used in a list for introducing each article except the first) and in addition; also

**i-tem-ize** also **-ise** *BrE* /'aɪtəmaɪz/ *v* [T] to set out all the details of (each thing on a list): *an itemized restaurant bill* | *itemized tax deductions*

**Ith-a-ca** /'ɪθəkə/ in CLASSICAL MYTHOLOGY, the home of Odysseus

**i-tin-e-rant** /aɪ'tɪnərənt/ *adj* [A] *fml* habitually travelling from place to place, esp. to practise one's trade or profession: *an itinerant labourer/preacher*

**i-tin-e-r-ary** /aɪ'tɪnərəri/—*nəreri/ n* a plan of a journey

**it'll** /'ɪtl/ *short for:* it will: *It'll rain tomorrow.*

**ITN** /aɪ ti: 'en-/ Independent Television News; a British news service which provides news reports for ITV

**its** /ɪts/ *determiner* (possessive form of **IT**<sup>1</sup> (1)) of or belonging to it: *The cat drank its milk and washed its ears.* | *It's a nice jug, but its handle is broken.* | *The plan has its merits.*

**it's** *short for:* **1** it is: *It's raining.* | *It's too small, and its handle is broken.* **2** it has: *It's been raining.*

**it-self** /ɪt'self/ *pron* **1** (reflexive form of **IT**<sup>1</sup> (1)): *The cat's washing itself.* | *The government made itself unpopular.* **2** (strong form of **IT**): *We won't buy new tyres when the car itself is so old.* **3** (all) by itself alone; without help: *The door opened all by itself.* **4** in itself without considering the rest: *The problem is unimportant in itself, but its long-term effects could be very serious.* **5** to itself for its private use; not shared —see YOURSELF (USAGE)

**it-sy-bit-sy** /,ɪtsɪ 'bɪtsɪ-/ also **it-ty-bit-ty** /,ɪti 'bɪti-/— *adj* [A] humor very small: *an itsy-bitsy piece of cake*

**ITV** /aɪ ti: 'vi:/ *n* Independent Television; a system of British television companies supported by advertising: *She watched a programme on ITV.* —compare BBC, CHANNEL 4

**IUD** /aɪ ju: 'di:/ *n* intrauterine device; a plastic or metal object fitted inside a woman's childbearing organ (WOMB) as a form of CONTRACEPTION (=to prevent her from having children)



**I·van·hoe** /'aivənhəʊ/ a book by Sir Walter Scott about the imaginary brave KNIGHT Sir Wilfred of Ivanhoe

**I·van the Ter·ri·ble** /,aivən ðə 'terɪbəl/ (1530–84) the first Russian ruler to take the title TSAR, remembered for his cruel and unfair leadership

**I've** /aiv/ *short for*: I have: *I've been here before.* | *I've got lots of time.* | *I've a feeling you're right.*

**IVF** /,aɪ vɪz 'ef-/ *n abbrev. for* IN VITRO FERTILIZATION

**i·vied** /'aɪvɪd/ *adj esp. lit covered with ivy: the ancient ivied walls*

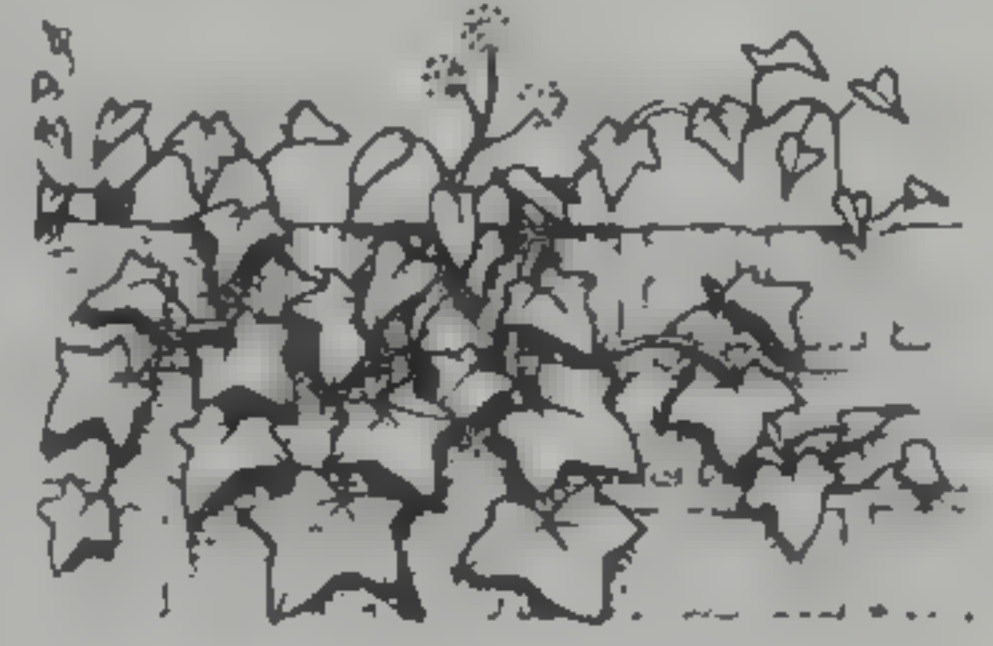
**i·vo·ry** /'aɪvəri/ *n* **1** [U] the hard white substance of which an elephant's TUSKS are made. Ivory can be used to make valuable things, such as jewellery, and in many places the sale of it has been forbidden to prevent people from illegally killing elephants to obtain the ivory from their tusks. **2** [U] the colour of this substance; creamy white **3** [C *often pl.*] something made of this substance, esp. a small figure of a person or thing: *my collection of Chinese ivories* —see also **tickle the ivories** (TICKLE<sup>1</sup> (5))

**ivory tow·er** /,ɪ... 'ɔ:/ *n often derog* an imaginary place where very clever people (INTELLECTUALS) are supposed

to avoid the difficult realities of ordinary life: *university professors in their ivory towers*

**i·vy** /'aɪvi/ *n* [U] a climbing plant with shiny three- or five-pointed leaves —see also POISON IVY

ivy



**Ivy League** /,ɪ... 'ɪ-/ *adj* [A] *AmE* belonging to or typical of a group of old and respected universities of the eastern US. These are Brown, Columbia, Cornell, Harvard, Princeton, and Yale Universities, Dartmouth College, and the University of Pennsylvania. The phrase Ivy League is also used more broadly to include other very highly-respected universities and colleges: *an Ivy League college* | *Ivy League clothes/manners/football*

**I·wo Ji·ma** /,ɪ:wəʊ 'dʒɪ:mə/ a Pacific island where Americans won a very difficult battle in the Second World War. There is a statue in Washington, DC of US Marines raising the flag on Iwo Jima.



**James** /dʒeɪmz/, **Henry** (1843–1916) an American writer who wrote about the effect of Europe on Americans who travelled there. His books include *Washington Square*, *The Bostonians*, and the SUPERNATURAL story *The Turn of the Screw*. —**sian** *adj*: a *Jamesian* plot

**James, Jes-se** /'dʒesi/ (1847–82) an American bank and train robber who, with his brother Frank, led a GANG of robbers, one of whom killed him. His name became famous even in Britain, as an exciting character who is still both written and sung about.

**James, P D** (1920– ) a British writer of DETECTIVE stories who invented the character Adam Dalgliesh. Many of her books have now been filmed for television, such as *Death of an Expert Witness* and *A Taste for Death*.

**James, Sid** /sɪd/ (1913–76) an actor known esp. for his humorous parts in many Carry On films, as well as television programmes such as *Bless This House*

**James-town** /'dʒeɪmztaʊn/ the first permanent settlement of English people in N America (1607). It is in Virginia, and is now a popular place for tourists to visit.

**jam jar** /'jɑː-/ *n* a small glass container (=JAR<sup>1</sup> (1)) for JAM<sup>1</sup>, sometimes used to store other things instead: *The children went fishing with a net and a jam jar* —see picture at CONTAINER

**jam-mies** /'dʒæmɪz/ *n* [U] *infml* PYJAMAS

**jam-my** /'dʒæmi/ *adj* *BrE sl* **1** easy: *That was a really jammy examination.* **2** (used esp. with taboo words) lucky, esp. in a way that makes other people annoyed: *The jammy bugger passed the exam without doing any work!*

**jam-packed** /,jɑː'pæk/ *adj* [(with)] *infml* full with many people or things very close together; very CROWDED: *The theatre was jam-packed for the first night of the play.*

**jam ses-sion** /'jɑː'seɪʃən/ *n* a JAZZ or ROCK<sup>3</sup> performance in which the musicians play together without practising together first

**Jane** /dʒeɪn/ the female companion of Tarzan in the Tarzan books and films —see TARZAN

**Jane Doe** /,jɑː'noʊ/ *AmE* an UNIDENTIFIED woman, esp. one in a law case who does not want her name to be known: *The case of Jane Doe vs Acme Electronics* —compare JOHN DOE

**Jane Eyre** /,dʒeɪn 'eə/ the title of a book by Charlotte Brontë written in 1847, about a woman who becomes a GOVERNESS and falls in love with her employer, Mr Rochester. The book describes Jane's situation and her relationship with the HERO in a powerful and clever style and is one of the most widely read English NOVELS even today.

**jan-gle** /'dʒæŋɡəl/ *v* **1** [I;T] to (cause to) make a sharp sound, like metal striking against metal: *The brass bells jangled on the horse's collar.* **2** [T] to excite unpleasantly; upset: *his jangled nerves*

**jan-is-sa-ry** /'dʒænzəri/ *also jan-i-za-ry* /-zəri/ *—n* a member of a special group of soldiers in Turkey in former times

**jan-i-tor** /'dʒæntər/ *n* **1** *AmE & ScotE* for CARETAKER (1) **2** *old-fash* a person who guards the main door of a large building —compare PORTER<sup>1</sup> (3)

**Jan-u-a-ry** /'dʒænjuəri, -njuəri/ *—juəri/* (*written abbrev. Jan.*) *n* [C;U] the first month of the year, between December and February. When people think of January, they think of the New Year and also of cold weather, snow, and ice: *It happened on January the fifth/on the fifth of January/on January fifth (AmE).* | *This office opened in January 1991.* | *I started work here last January/the January before last.*

**Ja-nus** /'dʒeɪnəs/ in CLASSICAL MYTHOLOGY, the Roman god of beginnings, gates and doorways, who was thought of as having one old face pointing into the old year and one young face pointing into the new year, and therefore gave his name to the month of January

**Jap** /dʒæp/ *n infml* a Japanese person (usu. considered offensive)

**ja-pan** /dʒə'pæn/ *v -nn-* [T] to cover (wood or metal) with a special paint giving a black shiny surface: *a japanned box*

**Japan** a country in E Asia consisting of four large islands (Hokkaido, Kyushu, Honshu and Shikoku) and many smaller islands. Capital Tokyo; population 122,380,000 (1987); language Japanese. The main religions are

Shinto and Buddhism. Japan is a very rich, industrialized country, with great success in car production and electronic goods such as televisions, VIDEOS, and AUDIO equipment.

**Jap-a-nese** /,dʒæpə'nɪz/ *n* **Japanese** **1** [the +P] people from Japan **2** [U] the language of Japan —**Japanese** *adj*

**Japanese lan-tern** /,jæpə'nɪz/ *n* a paper LANTERN that folds up, usu. used for decorative purposes

**jape** /dʒeɪp/ *n* *old-fash* a playful trick

**ja-pon-i-ca** /dʒə'pɒnɪkə/ *—'pɑː-/ n* [C;U] a decorative bush - with red or white flowers

**jar**<sup>1</sup> /dʒɑː/ *n* **1** a short-necked wide-mouthed pot or bottle made of glass, stone, clay, etc.: *a jam jar* **2** also **jar-ful** /-fʊl/ — the amount a jar will hold: *For this recipe you need a whole jar of marmalade.*

**jar**<sup>2</sup> *v -rr-* **1** [I (on)] to upset by making an unpleasant sound: *This experimental music jars (on my nerves) somewhat.* **2** [T] to shake unpleasantly: *The fall jarred every bone in my body.* **3** [I (with)] to be in noticeable opposition; not match; CLASH: *jarring opinions/colours*

**jar**<sup>3</sup> *n* (something that causes) an unpleasant shaking sensation: *We felt a jar as the wheels hit a bump.*

**jar-gon** /'dʒɑːɡən/ *also 'dʒɑːrgən, -gɑːn/ n* [C;U] often derog difficult or strange language which uses words known only to the members of a certain group: *computer jargon* | *the jargon of the advertising business*

**Jarls-berg** /'jɑːrlzbɜːg/ *also 'jɑːrlzbɜːrg/ n* [U] a kind of cheese made in Norway, with a pale yellow colour and a MILD (=not strong) taste

**Jar-row** /'dʒærəʊ/ an industrial town in NE England on the river Tyne, which had important shipyards and steelworks until 1930, when the economic problems of the Great Depression led to many people becoming unemployed. In 1936 many unemployed people walked from Jarrow to London as a protest, which became known as the Jarrow March.

**Jar-u-zel-ski** /,jærʊ:'zelski/, **Woj-ciech** /'vɔɪtʃek/ (1923– ) a Polish general and leader who was president of Poland ~ from 1985 until 1989. He did not allow any opposition or TRADE UNION activity but was forced to accept changes after the elections in 1989.

**jas-mine** /'dʒæzmɪn/ *n* [C;U] a climbing plant with sweet-smelling white or yellow flowers

**Ja-son** /'dʒeɪsən/ in CLASSICAL MYTHOLOGY, a man who sailed with his companions, the Argonauts, passing through many dangerous adventures in order to regain the Golden Fleece and whose story was made into a highly successful film called *Jason and the Argonauts*

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**jas-per** /'dʒæspə/ *n* [U] a decorative red, yellow or brown stone, not of great value

**jaun-dice** /'dʒɔːndɪs/ *also 'dʒɔːn-, 'dʒɑːn-/ n* [U] a medical condition in which the skin, the white part of the eyes, etc. turn yellow

**jaun-diced** /'dʒɔːndɪst/ *also 'dʒɔːn-, 'dʒɑːn-/ adj* **1** often derog tending to judge people and things unfavourably, esp. (as if) from long and disappointing experience of human affairs: *jaundiced opinions* | *a jaundiced view of life* | *He looks on these modern ideas with a rather jaundiced eye.* **2** rare suffering from jaundice

**jaunt** /dʒɔːnt/ *also 'dʒɔːnt, dʒɑːnt/ n* a short journey for pleasure: *We're going on/for a little jaunt to the seaside this afternoon.* —**jaunt** *v* [I]

**jaun-ty** /'dʒɔːnti/ *also 'dʒɔːnti, 'dʒɑːnti/ adj* (showing that one feels) cheerful, confident, and pleased with life: *a jaunty hat/person/wave of the hand* —**tily** *adv* —**-tiness** *n* [U]

**Ja-va** /'dʒɑːvə/ an island which is part of Indonesia, in the Indian Ocean — ~ **nese** /,dʒɑːvə'nɪz/ *n, adj*

**jav-e-lin** /'dʒævəlɪn/ *n* a light spear for throwing, now used mostly in sport —see colour picture on page 883

**jaw**<sup>1</sup> /dʒɔː/ *n* **1** [C] either of the two bony parts of the face in which the teeth are set: *the upper/lower jaw* —see pictures at SKELETON and at HEAD **2** [C] the appearance of the lower jaw: *A strong square jaw is supposed to be a sign of firm character.* **3** [C;U] *infml, sometimes derog* (a) talk: *We hadn't seen each other for months, and we sat down for a good jaw.* —see also JAWS



**jaw**<sup>2</sup> *v* [I (AWAY)] *infml*, sometimes *derog* 1 to talk: *They've been jawing away for hours.* 2 to jaw-jaw is better than to war-war *quote* a phrase originally spoken by Winston Churchill during the COLD WAR, and often used by somebody who thinks that discussion e.g. of political problems is better than fighting or other violent action

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**jazz**<sup>2</sup> *v*  
jazz sthg. ↔ **up phr v** [T] *infml* to make more active, interesting, or enjoyable, often with cheap bright decoration: *to jazz up the room with some bright red curtains*

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**J.D.**, **JD** /,dʒeɪ 'diː/ *n* Doctor of Jurisprudence; the degree given by American law schools to students who have successfully completed their courses: *She got her JD in 1987.* | *Robert Pole, J.D.*

**jealous** /'dʒeləs/ *adj* [(of)] *often derog* 1 unhappy and angry because (you think that) a someone who should like you, likes someone else better: *When she kisses the baby, it makes the older child jealous.* b someone who you feel belongs to you is being admired too much by someone else: *If other men spoke to his wife, he got terribly jealous.* 2 wanting to have what someone else has; ENVIOUS: *He is jealous of their success.* 3 wanting to keep what one has; POSSESSIVE: *He is jealous of his possessions/of his rights.* — ~ly *adv*: *The dog guarded its bone jealously.* | *She jealously defended the honour of her family.*

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**jealous-y** /'dʒeləsi/ *n* [C;U] (a) jealous feeling

**jeans** /dʒiːnz/ also **blue jeans** *AmE* — *n* [P] trousers made

of DENIM (=a strong, usu. blue, cotton cloth), worn informally by men, women, and children, and thought very fashionable among young people — see **PAIR (USAGE)**, **SLACKS**, and see picture at **OVERALL**

**Jed-da** /'dʒedə/ also **Jid-dah** /'dʒɪdə/ the largest port of Saudi Arabia, on the Red Sea

**jeep**, **Jeep** *tdmk* /dʒiːp/ *n* a type of small car made for traveling over rough ground: *to cross the desert by jeep*

**jeer** /dʒiə/ *v* [I (at); T] to laugh or shout disrespectfully (at): *The team was playing dreadfully, and the crowd jeered (at) them* | *jeering laughter* — **jeer** *n*: *abusive jeers* — ~ingly *adv*

**Jeeves** /dʒiːvz/ *n* a very good male personal servant, who looks after his employer's clothes, food, etc., and is useful and trusted in personal matters (from the VALET named Jeeves in the many humorous books by P G Wodehouse)

**Jeff-er-son** /'dʒefəsən||-fər-/ **Thomas** (1743–1826) the third president of the US (1801–09). Jefferson wrote a large part of the Declaration of Independence. He is also considered to be the **FOUNDER** of the Democratic Party.

**Je-ho-vah** /dʒɪ'həʊvə/ (a name given to God in the Old Testament (=first part of the Bible))

**Jehovah's Wit-ness** /ˌdʒəvə'wɪtnəs/ *n* a member of a religious organization that believes in every word of the Bible and sends its members to people's houses to discuss religious matters. Jehovah's Witnesses believe that war is wrong, and are also opposed to the authority of organized government in matters of conscience.

**je-june** /dʒɪ'dʒuːn/ *adj fml derog* 1 childish; NAIVE: *jejune political opinions* 2 (esp. of written material) dull; uninteresting: *jejune lectures*

**Jek-yl and Hyde** /,dʒekəl ənd 'haɪd/ *n* a person who has two different natures and can change from one to the other: *He's a bit of a Jekyll and Hyde.* (from the story "The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde" by R L Stevenson, in which the main character has one good nature (Dr Jekyll) and one evil nature (Mr Hyde)) — **Jekyll-and-Hyde** *adj*: *a Jekyll-and-Hyde character*

**jell, gel** /dʒel/ *v* [I] 1 (of a liquid) to become firmer, like jelly 2 (of ideas, thoughts, etc.) to take a clear shape: *I found the film confusing — a lot of different ideas that didn't really jell.*

**jel-lied** /'dʒelɪd/ *adj* cooked and served in jelly: *Jellied eels are thought of as a favourite food of working-class Londoners.*

**jel-lo** /'dʒeləʊ/ also **jell-o** — *n* [U] *tdmk, AmE* 1 for **JELLY** (1b) 2 **jello salad** a dish made from jello mixed with fruit, nuts, or sometimes vegetables, served with whipped cream

**jel-ly** /'dʒeli/ *n* 1 a [S;U] *esp. BrE* a soft quite solid substance which shakes when it is moved: *The juices from the cooked meat solidify into a jelly.* | (fig.) *He had beaten his victim's head to a jelly with a hammer.* b [C;U] also **jello** *AmE* (a dish of) such a substance made with sweetened fruit juice and GELATINE, often eaten with ice cream at children's parties: *an orange jelly* | *I was so nervous I was shaking like a jelly.* 2 [U] clear, quite solid JAM<sup>1</sup> containing no pieces of fruit, seeds, etc.: *apple jelly*

**jelly ba-by** /'dʒeli ˌbæbi/ *n BrE* a small soft jelly-like sweet made in the shape of a baby, in a variety of colours, often eaten by children

**jelly bean** /'dʒeli ˌbiːn/ *n* a small soft sweet that comes in many different tastes and colours, is shaped like a bean, and which one has to chew a lot. Jelly beans are popular in the US, esp. at Easter, when they are put in **EASTER BASKETS**.

**jel-ly-fish** /'dʒelifɪʃ/ *n* -fish or -fishes a sea creature that has a soft nearly transparent body and sometimes stings

**jelly roll** /'dʒeli ˌrɔːl/ *n AmE* for **SWISS ROLL**

**jem-my** /'dʒemi/ *BrE* || **jimmy** *AmE* — *n* a metal bar used esp. by thieves to break open locked doors, windows, etc. — **jemmy** *v* [T]

**Je-na** /'jeɪnə/ a town in the E of Germany, famous for its glass industry — see also **ZEISS**

**je ne sais quoi** /,ʒə nə sei 'kwɑː/ *n* [S;U] *Fr*, often *pomp* or *humor* a desirable quality that cannot be described or expressed: *Her reading of the poem lacked a certain je ne sais quoi.*



- James** /dʒeɪmz/, **Henry** (1843–1916) an American writer who wrote about the effect of Europe on Americans who travelled there. His books include *Washington Square*, *The Bostonians*, and the SUPERNATURAL story *The Turn of the Screw*. —slan *adj*: a *Jamesian* plot
- James, Jes-se** /'dʒesi/ (1847–82) an American bank and train robber who, with his brother Frank, led a GANG of robbers, one of whom killed him. His name became famous even in Britain, as an exciting character who is still both written and sung about.
- James, P D** (1920– ) a British writer of DETECTIVE stories who invented the character Adam Dalgliesh. Many of her books have now been filmed for television, such as *Death of an Expert Witness* and *A Taste for Death*.
- James, Sid** /sɪd/ (1913–76) an actor known esp. for his humorous parts in many Carry On films, as well as television programmes such as *Bless This House*
- James-town** /'dʒeɪmztaʊn/ the first permanent settlement of English people in N America (1607). It is in Virginia, and is now a popular place for tourists to visit.
- jam jar** /'jɑː- / *n* a small glass container (=JAR<sup>1</sup> (1)) for JAM<sup>1</sup>, sometimes used to store other things instead: *The children went fishing with a net and a jam jar* —see picture at CONTAINER
- jam-mies** /'dʒæmɪz/ *n* [U] *infml* PYJAMAS
- jam-my** /'dʒæmi/ *adj* BrE sl 1 easy: *That was a really jammy examination.* 2 (used esp. with taboo words) lucky, esp. in a way that makes other people annoyed: *The jammy bugger passed the exam without doing any work!*
- jam-packed** /,jɑː- / *adj* [(with)] *infml* full with many people or things very close together; very CROWDED: *The theatre was jam-packed for the first night of the play.*
- jam ses-sion** /'jɑː- / *n* a JAZZ or ROCK<sup>3</sup> performance in which the musicians play together without practising together first
- Jane** /dʒeɪn/ the female companion of Tarzan in the Tarzan books and films —see TARZAN
- Jane Doe** /,jɑː- / AmE an UNIDENTIFIED woman, esp. one in a law case who does not want her name to be known: *The case of Jane Doe vs Acme Electronics* —compare JOHN DOE
- Jane Eyre** /,dʒeɪn 'eɪr/ the title of a book by Charlotte Brontë written in 1847, about a woman who becomes a GOVERNESS and falls in love with her employer, Mr Rochester. The book describes Jane's situation and her relationship with the HERO in a powerful and clever style and is one of the most widely read English NOVELS even today.
- jan-gle** /'dʒæŋɡəl/ *v* 1 [I;T] to (cause to) make a sharp sound, like metal striking against metal: *The brass bells jangled on the horse's collar.* 2 [T] to excite unpleasantly; upset: *his jangled nerves*
- jan-is-sa-ry** /'dʒænɪsəri/ —seri/ also **jan-i-za-ry** /-zəri/ —zeri/ — *n* a member of a special group of soldiers in Turkey in former times
- jan-i-tor** /'dʒænɪtər/ *n* 1 AmE & ScotE for CARETAKER (1) 2 old-fash a person who guards the main door of a large building —compare PORTER<sup>1</sup> (3)
- Jan-u-a-ry** /'dʒænjuəri, -njuəri/ —jueri/ (written abbrev. Jan.) *n* [C;U] the first month of the year, between December and February. When people think of January, they think of the New Year and also of cold weather, snow, and ice: *It happened on January the fifth/on the fifth of January/on January fifth* (AmE). | *This office opened in January 1991.* | *I started work here last January/the January before last.*
- Ja-nus** /'dʒeɪnəs/ in CLASSICAL MYTHOLOGY, the Roman god of beginnings, gates and doorways, who was thought of as having one old face pointing into the old year and one young face pointing into the new year, and therefore gave his name to the month of January
- Jap** /dʒæp/ *n infml* a Japanese person (usu. considered offensive)
- ja-pan** /dʒə'pæn/ *v -nn-* [T] to cover (wood or metal) with a special paint giving a black shiny surface: *a japanned box*
- Japan** a country in E Asia consisting of four large islands (Hokkaido, Kyushu, Honshu and Shikoku) and many smaller islands. Capital Tokyo; population 122,380,000 (1987); language Japanese. The main religions are Shinto and Buddhism. Japan is a very rich, industrialized country, with great success in car production and electronic goods such as televisions, VIDEOS, and AUDIO equipment.
- Jap-a-nese** /,dʒæpə'niːz- / *n* Japanese 1 [the +P] people from Japan 2 [U] the language of Japan —Japanese *adj*
- Japanese lan-tern** /,jæpə'niːz- / *n* a paper LANTERN that folds up, usu. used for decorative purposes
- jape** /dʒeɪp/ *n old-fash* a playful trick
- ja-pon-i-ca** /dʒə'pɒnɪkə/ —'pɑː- / *n* [C;U] a decorative bush with red or white flowers
- jar<sup>1</sup>** /dʒɑːr/ *n* 1 a short-necked wide-mouthed pot or bottle made of glass, stone, clay, etc.: *a jam jar* 2 also **jar-ful** /-ful/ — the amount a jar will hold: *For this recipe you need a whole jar of marmalade.*
- jar<sup>2</sup>** *v -rr-* 1 [I (on)] to upset by making an unpleasant sound: *This experimental music jars (on my nerves) somewhat.* 2 [T] to shake unpleasantly: *The fall jarred every bone in my body.* 3 [I (with)] to be in noticeable opposition; not match; CLASH: *jarring opinions/colours*
- jar<sup>3</sup>** *n* (something that causes) an unpleasant shaking sensation: *We felt a jar as the wheels hit a bump.*
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**Jed-da** /'dʒedə/ also **Jid-dah** /'dʒɪdə/ the largest port of Saudi Arabia, on the Red Sea

**jeep**, **Jeep** *tdmk* /dʒiːp/ *n* a type of small car made for travelling over rough ground: *to cross the desert by jeep*

**jeer** /dʒiə/ *v* [I (at); T] to laugh or shout disrespectfully (at): *The team was playing dreadfully, and the crowd jeered (at) them* | *jeering laughter* —jeer *n*: *abusive jeers* — ~ingly *adv*

**Jeeves** /dʒiːvz/ *n* a very good male personal servant, who looks after his employer's clothes, food, etc., and is useful and trusted in personal matters (from the VALET named Jeeves in the many humorous books by P G Wodehouse)

**Jeff-er-son** /'dʒefəsən||-fər-/ **Thomas** (1743–1826) the third president of the US (1801–09). Jefferson wrote a large part of the Declaration of Independence. He is also considered to be the FOUNDER of the Democratic Party.

**Je-ho-vah** /dʒɪ'həʊvə/ (a name given to God in the Old Testament (=first part of the Bible))

**Jehovah's Wit-ness** /ˌdʒɛvə'wɪt-ness/ *n* a member of a religious organization that believes in every word of the Bible and sends its members to people's houses to discuss religious matters. Jehovah's Witnesses believe that war is wrong, and are also opposed to the authority of organized government in matters of conscience.

**je-june** /dʒɪ'dʒuːn/ *adj fml derog* 1 childish; NAIVE: *jejune political opinions* 2 (esp. of written material) dull; uninteresting: *jejune lectures*

**Jek-yll and Hyde** /,dʒekjəl ənd 'haɪd/ *n* a person who has two different natures and can change from one to the other: *He's a bit of a Jekyll and Hyde.* (from the story "The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde" by R L Stevenson, in which the main character has one good nature (Dr Jekyll) and one evil nature (Mr Hyde)) —Jekyll-and-Hyde *adj*: *a Jekyll-and-Hyde character*

**jell, gel** /dʒel/ *v* [I] 1 (of a liquid) to become firmer, like jelly 2 (of ideas, thoughts, etc.) to take a clear shape: *I found the film confusing — a lot of different ideas that didn't really jell.*

**jell-ied** /'dʒelɪd/ *adj* cooked and served in jelly: **Jellied eels** are thought of as a favourite food of working-class Londoners.

**jell-lo** /'dʒeləʊ/ also **jell-o**— *n* [U] *tdmk, AmE* 1 for JELLY (1b) 2 **jello salad** a dish made from jello mixed with fruit, nuts, or sometimes vegetables, served with whipped cream

**jelly** /'dʒeli/ *n* 1 a [S;U] esp. *BrE* a soft quite solid substance which shakes when it is moved: *The juices from the cooked meat solidify into a jelly.* | (fig.) *He had beaten his victim's head to a jelly with a hammer.* b [C;U] also **jello** *AmE* (a dish of) such a substance made with sweetened fruit juice and GELATINE, often eaten with ice cream at children's parties: *an orange jelly* | *I was so nervous I was shaking like a jelly.* 2 [U] clear, quite solid JAM<sup>1</sup> containing no pieces of fruit, seeds, etc.: *apple jelly*

**jelly ba-by** /'dʒɛli ˌbæbi/ *n* *BrE* a small-soft jelly-like sweet made in the shape of a baby, in a variety of colours, often eaten by children

**jelly bean** /'dʒɛli ˌbiːn/ *n* a small soft sweet that comes in many different tastes and colours, is shaped like a bean, and which one has to chew a lot. Jelly beans are popular in the US, esp. at Easter, when they are put in EASTER BASKETS.

**jelly-fish** /'dʒelɪfɪʃ/ *n* -fish or -fishes a sea creature that has a soft nearly transparent body and sometimes stings

**jelly roll** /'dʒɛli ˌrɒl/ *n* *AmE* for SWISS ROLL

**jem-my** /'dʒemi/ *BrE* || **jimmy** *AmE* — *n* a metal bar used esp. by thieves to break open locked doors, windows, etc. —jemmy *v* [T]

**Je-na** /'jeɪnə/ a town in the E of Germany, famous for its glass industry — see also ZEISS

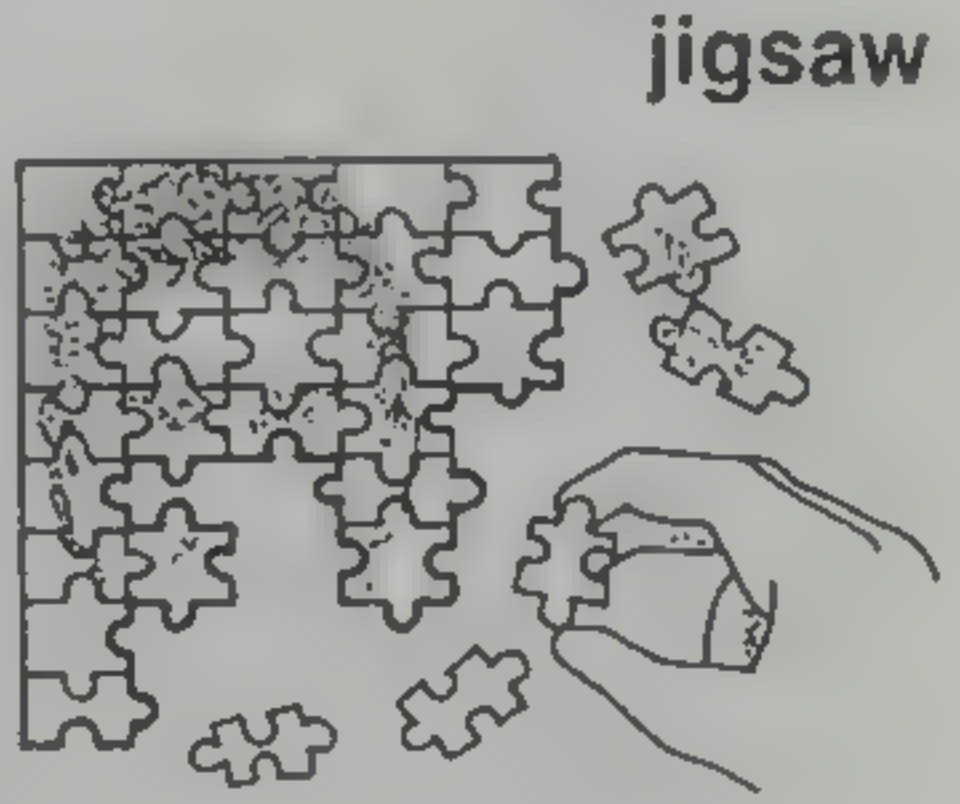
**je ne sais quoi** /ˌʒə nə seɪ 'kwɑː/ *n* [S;U] *Fr*, often *pomp* or *humor* a desirable quality that cannot be described or expressed: *Her reading of the poem lacked a certain je ne sais quoi.*



- Jen-kins** /'dʒɛŋkɪnz/, **Roy** /rɔɪ/ (1920– ) a British politician who held several important positions in Labour governments in the 1960s and 70s. In 1981 he was one of the "Gang of Four" who established the Social Democratic Party, and in 1987 became **Baron Jenkins of Hillhead**.
- Jen-ner** /'dʒenər/, **Edward** (1749–1823) an English doctor who discovered the principle of **VACCINATION**, and tested his ideas by giving small amounts of **COWPOX** (a disease of cows) to humans, which protected them from **SMALLPOX** (a disease which killed many people until then)
- jenny** *n* see **SPINNING JENNY**
- jeop-ar-dize** also **-dise** *BrE* /'dʒepədəɪz||-ər-/ *v* [T] to put at risk or in danger: *If you're rude to him it may jeopardize your chances of promotion.*
- jeop-ar-dy** /'dʒepədi||-ər-/ *n* [U] risk of loss, defeat, harm, etc.; danger: *His foolish behaviour may put his whole future in jeopardy.* —see also **DOUBLE JEOPARDY**
- jer-e-mi-ad** /,dʒerɪ'maɪəd/ *n* *lit.*, often *derog* a long sad-sounding complaint
- Jer-e-mi-ah** /,dʒerɪ'maɪə-/ (6th century BC) a Hebrew **PROPHET** who said that terrible things would happen because God would become angry with the Jews. His thoughts are given in the Old Testament of the Bible. A person who says that terrible things are going to happen is sometimes called a **Jeremiah**.
- Jer-i-cho** /'dʒerɪkəʊ/ an ancient city N of the Dead Sea in Israel, thought to be the oldest known settlement in the world. It was taken by Joshua in about 1300 BC, and destroyed and then rebuilt by Herod the Great in about 30 BC.
- jerk**<sup>1</sup> /dʒɜːk||dʒɜːrk/ *v* **1** [T] to pull suddenly: *He jerked the string and the puppet jumped.* **2** [I] to move with jerks: *The bus jerked to a stop.*  
**jerk off** *phr v* [I;T] *taboo sl*, esp. *AmE* for **MASTURBATE**
- jerk**<sup>2</sup> *n* **1** a short quick pull or (backward) movement: *The knife was stuck but she pulled it out with a jerk.* | *The train stopped with a jerk.* —see also **PHYSICAL JERKS** **2** *derog sl*, esp. *AmE* a stupid person, esp. a man who is insensitive to women: *Stop dancing on my feet, you jerk!*
- jer-kin** /'dʒɜːkɪn||-ɜːr-/ *n* a short coat, usu. without **SLEEVES**, worn esp. by men in former times
- jerk-y** /'dʒɜːki||-ɜːr-/ *adj* not smooth in movement; with sudden starts and stops: *We had a very jerky ride in the back of the old truck.* —*ily adj* —*iness n* [U]
- jer-o-bo-am** /,dʒerə'bəʊəm/ *n* a very large wine bottle that holds four times the amount of an ordinary wine bottle
- Je-rome** /dʒɜː'rəʊm/, **Jerome K** (1859–1927) an English writer who wrote humorous books, such as *Idle Thoughts of an Idle Fellow* and *Three Men in a Boat*
- Jer-ry**<sup>1</sup> /'dʒeri/ see **TOM AND JERRY**
- Jerry**<sup>2</sup> *n* *BrE* *old-fash derog* a German (used esp. during the Second World War)
- jer-ry-built** /'..../ *adj derog* built quickly, cheaply, and badly: *a jerry-built house*
- jer-sey** /'dʒɜːzi||-ɜːr-/ *n* **1** [C] a woollen garment for the upper part of the body; **SWEATER** **2** [U] fine usu. woollen cloth used esp. for women's dresses **3** [C] *AmE* a soft shirt worn by players of some sports: His name and number are on the back of his jersey.
- Jersey** *n* **1** the largest of the Channel Islands, between England and France, with influences from both countries. Jersey is known for **DAIRY** products such as cream, as well as potatoes and **TOMATOES** **2** a light brown cow that produces creamy milk **3** *AmE infml* **NEW JERSEY**
- Je-ru-sa-lem** /dʒɜː'ruːsələm/ **1** the city between the Mediterranean and the Dead Sea, which is of great religious and historical importance to Christians, Jews and Muslims. It has many important places for all these religions, such as the Dome of the Rock, the Mount of Olives and the Wailing Wall. Although the Israelis regard Jerusalem as their capital, this is not agreed with by many people, particularly Arabs. **2** a well-known religious song based on a poem written by William Blake
- Je-ru-sa-lem ar-ti-choke** /,..../ *n* an **ARTICHOKE** (2)
- Jerusalem Bi-ble** /,..../ *n* a translation of the Bible which was published (**PUBLISH**) in English in 1966, based on work done in Jerusalem
- jest** /dʒest/ *v* [I (with, about)] *fm* to speak without serious intention; joke: *Don't jest with me, young man!* | *a jesting remark* —**jest n** [C;U] : *He said it as a jest/said it in jest.* —*~ingly adv*
- jest-er** /'dʒestər/ *n* a man kept by a ruler in former times to amuse him, tell jokes, etc.; **FOOL**<sup>1</sup> (2)
- Je-su-it** /'dʒezjuɪt||'dʒezuɪt, 'dʒezuɪt/ *n* a Roman Catholic man who is a member of the Society of Jesus and lives a religious life. People sometimes think of Jesuits in connection with the words "Give us a child until it is seven, and it is ours for life", originally said by a Jesuit teacher. —*~ical* /,dʒezju'ɪtɪkəl||,dʒezu-, 'dʒezu-/ *adj* —*~ically /kli/ adv*
- Je-sus**<sup>1</sup> /'dʒɪzəs/ also **Jesus Christ** /,..../, **Christ** — the **FOUNDER** of the Christian religion. As told in the New Testament, Jesus was born in Bethlehem, the son of God and the Virgin Mary, and lived as a **CARPENTER** in Nazareth with Mary and her husband Joseph. Jesus gathered 12 followers, called **DISCIPLES**, and travelled around Palestine teaching and healing (**HEAL**) people who were sick. He also performed **MIRACLES** e.g. walking on water and turning water into wine. However, there was much opposition to his message and the Roman authorities caught him and crucified (**CRUCIFY**) him by nailing him to a cross. Christians believe that he rose from the dead after three days and went up to heaven. This is known as the Resurrection. —see also **CHRISTIANITY**, **NATIVITY**; and see colour picture on page 424
- Jesus**<sup>2</sup> *interj sl* (a strong word used to express surprise, anger, etc.)  
▷ **USAGE** Some people, especially those who believe in the Christian religion, are offended by the use of **Jesus** and **Christ** as interjections. **God** is more commonly used and is not felt to be so strong, but some people do not like this use either.◁
- Jesus Christ Su-per-star** /,..../, *a musical show about the life of Jesus, made into a film in 1973*
- Jesus freak** /'..../ *n* becoming *old-fash* a person who combines the practice of some form of Christianity with a **HIPPIE** way of life. The **STEREOTYPE** of a Jesus freak is of a young man with long hair and a beard, who wears loose clothes and **SANDALS**.
- Jesus move-ment** /'..../, [the] a Christian movement which began in the 1970s and consisted of esp. young people who reject the practice of most of the established Christian churches and believe in spreading the teachings of Jesus by talking about them a lot
- jet**<sup>1</sup> /dʒet/ *n* **1** an aircraft with a **JET ENGINE**: *Enemy jets attacked our positions.* | *travelling by jet* | *a jet aircraft* —see picture at **AIRCRAFT** **2** [(of)] a fast narrow stream of liquid, gas, etc., coming out of a small hole: *The firemen directed jets of water at the burning building.* **3** a narrow opening from which this is forced out: *Put a match to the gas jet to light the gas.*
- jet**<sup>2</sup> *v* -**tt-** **1** [I+adv/prep; T (OUT)] to come or send out of a small opening in a fast narrow stream: *Water jetted from the pipe/jetted out.* | *The flamethrower jetted (out) flames.* **2** [I+adv/prep] *infml* to travel by jet aircraft: *jetting around the world*
- jet**<sup>3</sup> *n* [U] a hard black material used, when polished, for making small decorative objects and jewellery
- Jet tdmk** a company which deals in oil: *Turn right just after the Jet garage.*
- jet-black** /,..../ *adj* deep black
- jet en-gine** /,..../ *n* an engine that pushes out a stream of hot air and gases behind it, used for aircraft —see picture at **AIRCRAFT**
- jet foil** /'dʒetfɔɪl/ *n* a boat that rises out of the water on leglike structures when travelling fast; **HYDROFOIL**
- jet-lag** /'..../ *n* [U] the tired and confused feeling that people may get after flying to a part of the world where the time is different, e.g. morning when it ought to be bedtime: *suffering from jet lag* —**jet-lagged adj**: *Thomas was jet-lagged after his ten-hour flight*
- jet-pro-pelled** /,..../ *adj* driven by a **JET ENGINE**
- jet pro-pul-sion** /,..../ *n* [U] the use of **JET ENGINES**
- jet-sam** /'dʒetsəm/ *n* [U] things thrown from a ship (and floating towards the shore) —compare **FLOTSAM**
- jet set** /'..../ *n* [the+sing./pl. v] *infml* the international social group of rich, successful, and fashionable people who



**jive**<sup>1</sup> /dʒaɪv/ *n* **1** (a style of very fast dancing performed to) a kind of popular music with a strong regular beat; **SWING**<sup>2</sup> (5) or **ROCK 'N' ROLL** **2** *AmE sl* deceiving or foolish talk **3** *AmE sl* also **jivetalk**, **jivetalking** the variety of





English spoken by esp. URBAN (=living in cities) black people

**jive**<sup>2</sup> *v* [I] to dance to jive music

**Jnr** *BrE* written abbrev. for JUNIOR<sup>1</sup>

**Joan** see DARBY AND JOAN

**Joan of Arc** /ˌdʒəʊn əv 'ɑ:k/ || -'ɑ:rk/ see SAINT JOAN OF ARC

**job** /dʒɒb/ || dʒɑ:b/ *n* 1 [C] regular paid employment: "What does she do?" "She has a good job in a bank." | The factory closed down and she lost (=was dismissed from) her job. | He's got a safe job in the Civil Service. (=he is unlikely to lose his job) | a part-time job | He's been out of a job (=unemployed) for months. | I'm looking for a new job, one where I get a bit more job satisfaction. | I love being a soldier; I could never do an ordinary nine-to-five job. (=with regular hours of work every day) | No, I can't let you look at the confidential files — it'd be more than my job's worth. (=I would lose my job) | to fill in a job application | a government job-creation scheme —see also JOBSWORTH

► **CULTURAL NOTE** If a person is looking for a job they will often look in a newspaper or at a JOBCENTRE and when they find something they are interested in, they send a written APPLICATION and their CV. If they are successful they are invited to an INTERVIEW<sup>1</sup> and asked questions about themselves, and may be asked to give the names of former employers who can talk about their work. In most companies there is an official process for giving someone a job and it is not usual to get a job just because you have a friend or relative who can help you. ◀

2 [C] a piece of work: I've got a job for you: wash these dishes, please. | The plumber's done a good job/a good job of work. | I think Peter's just the man for the job. (=exactly the right person to do this piece of work) —see also ODD JOB MAN 3 [S] something hard to do: It was a (real) job (=it was difficult) to talk with all that noise. | I had a job finishing that piece of work on time. 4 [S] one's affair; duty: It's not my job to interfere. 5 *infml* [C] usu. sing.] an example of a certain type: That new car of yours is a beautiful job. (=a beautiful car) 6 [C] *infml* a PLASTIC SURGERY operation: She's had a nose job. 7 [C] sl a crime, esp. a robbery: He's in prison for pulling a job (=doing a crime) up north. | a bank job —see also INSIDE JOB 8 give something up as a bad job to decide that something is impossible, and stop trying to do it 9 gi'z a job (=give me a job) a phrase used in the British television SERIES *Boys from the Blackstuff*. The phrase was used by a young man looking for a job in Liverpool at a time when there was high unemployment. 10 jobs for the boys usu. derog good employment for one's friends or supporters 11 just the job exactly the thing wanted or needed: That spanner you lent me was just the job. 12 make the best of a bad job *BrE* to do as well as possible in unfavourable conditions: They wouldn't let us use the house, so making the best of a bad job we held our party in the garden. 13 on the job: a while working; at work: We're not allowed to smoke on the job. | on-the-job training *b* (*BrE infml, humor*) while having sex: He died on the job. —see also PUT-UP JOB, a good job (GOOD<sup>1</sup>)

► **USAGE** What you do to earn your living is your job [C], your work [U], or (more formal) your occupation: Please state your occupation on the form. Post and position are more formal words for a particular job: He was appointed to the post/position of lecturer in English at Newcastle University. A trade is a skilled job in which you use your hands: She's an electrician by trade. A profession is a job such as that of a doctor or lawyer, for which you need special training and a good education. Some professions, such as teaching and nursing, are also called vocations, which suggests that people do them in order to help others. A career is a job that you hope to do all your life, with more and more success: Her political career began 20 years ago. ◀

**Job** /dʒəʊb/ a man in the Bible who was patient in spite of many misfortunes: You need the patience of Job to work in the complaints department.

**job-ber** /'dʒɒbə/ || 'dʒɑ:-/ *n* see MARKET MAKER

**job-bing** /'dʒɒbɪŋ/ || 'dʒɑ:-/ *adj* [A] *BrE* doing separate small jobs for various people: a jobbing gardener

**job cen-tre** /'jɒ, -/ || also employment exchange *n* a British government office which helps people to find work or workers. Most large towns have a job centre.

**Job-club** /'dʒɒbkʌb/ || 'dʒɑ:b-/ *n* a government organization in Britain which helps unemployed people find work

**job de-scrip-tion** /'jɒ, -/ || 'dʒɑ:-/ *n* the description of the duties involved in a particular job, and the things for which the job holder is responsible, often in the form of an official document: My job description includes liaising with our marketing department.

**job-hunt-ing** /'dʒɒbhʌntɪŋ/ || 'dʒɑ:b-/ *n* [U] the activity of looking for a job, e.g. by looking in the special part of a newspaper where jobs are advertised: advice to help you with your job hunting | How's the job hunting going?

**job-less** /'dʒɒbləs/ || 'dʒɑ:b-/ *adj* without a job; unemployed [(also *n*, (the) *P*)] There are over 1000 jobless in our town.

**job los-ses** /'jɒ, -/ || 'dʒɑ:-/ *n* [P] figures representing the number of jobs lost in a particular place, usu. given in a news statement about a factory closing, or in a total of such losses of jobs for a certain area, or over a period of time: The town suffered heavy job losses when the steelworks shut down.

**job lot** /'jɒ, -/ || 'dʒɑ:-/ *n* [(of)] (often derog) a group of things of different kinds, all bought or sold together

**Job's com-fort-er** /ˌdʒəʊbz 'kʌmfətə/ || -fər-/ *n* rare a person whose attempts to make others feel better actually make them feel worse

**job-shar-ing** /'dʒɒʃeərɪŋ/ || 'dʒɑ:b-/ *n* *BrE* [U] the practice of dividing a full-time job between two people so that each works for half the time. This practice is becoming more popular, esp. as a way of helping women with children return to work.

**jobs-worth** /'dʒɒbzɜ:θ/ || 'dʒɑ:bzɜ:θ/ *n* *BrE infml, often humor* a usu. uniformed male attendant, esp. in an important post, who sticks closely to rules rather than using common sense. His favourite saying when refusing to meet a request is "It's more than my job's worth" (e.g. to let someone do something) (=he would lose his job if he let them do it).

**jock** /dʒɒk/ || dʒɑ:k/ *n* *AmE infml often derog* a sportsman, esp. a college student who is very keen on sport and not very clever

**Jock** *n* *BrE infml, often derog* a name used for a man from Scotland. This word is usu. used by English people, and can be annoying to Scotsmen.

**jock-ey**<sup>1</sup> /'dʒɒki/ || 'dʒɑ:ki/ *n* a person who rides in horse races, esp. professionally —see also DISC JOCKEY

**jockey**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T+obj+adv/prep, esp. into] to persuade gradually and skilfully: They were reluctant at first, but we managed to jockey them into signing the agreement. —see also jockey for position (POSITION<sup>1</sup> (8))

**Jockey Club** /'jɒ, -/ || [the] the organization in charge of horse-racing in Britain

**Jockey shorts** /'jɒ, -/ || 'dʒɑ:-/ *n* [P] *tdmk* a type of men's UNDERPANTS.

**jock-strap** /'dʒɒkstræp/ || 'dʒɑ:k-/ also athletic supporter *AmE— n infml* a tight-fitting undergarment for supporting the male sex organs, worn while doing sports

**jo-cose** /dʒə'kəʊs, dʒəʊ-/ *adj* lit or *fml* joking; meant to or meaning to cause amusement — ~ly *adv* — ~ness, jocosity /dʒə'kɒsɪti, dʒəʊ- || -'kɑ:-/ *n* [U]

**joc-u-lar** /'dʒɒkjʊlə/ || 'dʒɑ:-/ *adj* *fml* meant to or meaning to cause amusement, perhaps in reply to a serious question: a jocular reply/person — ~ly *adv* — ~ity /'dʒɒkjʊ-lærɪti/ || dʒɑ:-/ *n* [U]

**joc-und** /'dʒɒkənd/ || 'dʒɑ:-/ *adj* lit & poet merry; cheerful — ~ity /dʒəʊ'kəndɪti, dʒə-/ *n* [U]

**jodh-purs** /'dʒɒdpɜ:z/ || 'dʒɑ:dpɜ:z/ *n* [P] trousers for horse riding that are tight from the ankle to the knee and loose above the knee —see PAIR (USAGE)

**Jod-rell Bank** /ˌdʒɒdrəl 'bæŋk/ || dʒɑ:-/ an OBSERVATORY (=place from which scientists study the stars, etc.) in Cheshire, NW England

**Joe Bloggs** /ˌdʒəʊ 'blɒgz/ || -'blɑ:gz/ also Joe Pub-lic /ˌjɒ, -/ || Joe Soap *BrE infml* || Joe Blow, John Q. Public /ˌjɒ, -/ || *AmE, AustrE infml* — an average man or male member of the public: What would Joe Bloggs think? | It was a brilliant design of motorbike, but expensive—and Joe Public refused to pay up. —see also man in the street (MAN)

**jog**<sup>1</sup> /dʒɒg/ || dʒɑ:g/ *v* -gg- 1 [T] to push or knock slightly with the arm, hand, etc.: She jogged my elbow and made



*me spill my coffee.* **2** [I+adv/prep] to move slowly, shaking up and down or from side to side: *The carriage jogged along the rough road.* **3** [I] to run slowly and steadily, esp. for exercise: *I go jogging in the park before breakfast.* | (fig.) *Our lives just jog along* (=move uneventfully) *from day to day.* —see RUN (USAGE) **4** **jog** someone's memory to make someone remember

**jog<sup>2</sup> n** **1** a slight shake, push, or knock: *I gave him a jog to wake him up.* **2** a slow steady run, esp. for exercise, a fashionable thing to do, esp. in the 1980s: *I go for a jog in the park every morning.*

**jog-ger** /'dʒɒgə/ || 'dʒɑː-/ *n* a person who runs slowly and steadily for exercise, but who is not fit or fast enough to be called a runner. —**jogging** *n*

**jog-gle** /'dʒɒgəl/ || 'dʒɑː-/ *v* [I;T] *infml* to (cause to) shake often, but slightly —**joggle** *n*

**jog trot** /'ɔː-/ *n* [S] a slow steady run (of a person) or TROT (of a horse)

**Jo-han-nes-burg** /dʒəʊ'hænˌsbɜːg/ || -bɜːrg/ the largest city in South Africa, a centre for business and TRANSPORT<sup>1</sup> (2)

**john** /dʒɒn/ || dʒɑːn/ *n* *AmE sl* **1** for TOILET **2** a word used by American PROSTITUTES for one of their customers

**John** see SAINT JOHN

**John, El-ton** /'eltən/ (1947– ) an English popular music singer, piano player, and songwriter known for his unusual, brightly decorated clothes and glasses and his financial support for Watford Football Club in London. His many successful songs include *Crocodile Rock* and *Candle In The Wind*. —see colour picture on page 554

**John, King** (1167–1216) King of England from 1199. He is remembered esp. for signing the Magna Carta in 1215. —see also MAGNA CARTA

**John Bar-ley-corn** /,dʒɒn 'bærliːkɔːn/ || dʒɑːrn 'bærliːkɔːn/ *AmE old fash* alcoholic drink, represented as a man

**John Brown's Bod-y** /,jɒn 'bɒdi/ an American song, written by Charles Hall, about a famous fighter against slavery: *John Brown's body lies a-mouldering in the grave, But his soul goes marching on...* —see also John BROWN

**John Bull** /,jɒn 'bʊl/ *n* *lit* **1** England; the English people **2** [C] *usu. derog* a typical Englishman, esp. one considered to dislike foreigners. John Bull is shown in pictures as a large, rather fat man wearing leather boots and a WAIST-COAT with the pattern of the UNION JACK on it. There is often a BULLDOG beside him. —compare BRITANNIA

**John Deere** /,dʒɒn 'diə/ || dʒɑːn-/ an American company that makes industrial and farm vehicles and machines

**John Doe** /,jɒn 'do/ *n* **1** an UNIDENTIFIED man, esp. one in a law case who does not want his identity to be known —compare JANE DOE **2** [C] *esp. AmE* an average man

**John Han-cock** /,jɒn 'hæŋk/ || 'hæŋk/ *n* [S] *AmE infml* a SIGNATURE (1) (after the American STATESMAN of that name who was the first to sign Declaration of Independence. He is said to have made his signature very large, so that the king of England could read it without his glasses: *Put your John Hancock on the dotted line.*

**John Lew-is** /,jɒn 'liː/ (in Britain) one of a group of shops found in large towns, selling things for the home, clothing, toys, etc.

**John-nie Walk-er** /,dʒɒni 'wɔːkə/ || dʒɑːn-/ *n* [U] *tdmk* a type of blended (BLEND (2)) WHISKY

**john-ny** /'dʒɒni/ || 'dʒɑːni/ *n* **1** *old-fash infml (often cap.)* a man **2** *BrE sl* for CONDOM **3** *AmE sl* PENIS

**johnny-come-late-ly** /,jɒni 'kɒmleɪ/ || 'kɒmleɪ/ *n* *AmE* a NEWCOMER to a job or an activity, esp. one who is successful and receives a lot of attention

**John of Gaunt** /,jɒn 'gəʊnt/ || 'gəʊnt/ (1340–99) an English politician, son of Edward III, who acted as head of government until Richard II was old enough to rule

**John O'Groats** /,dʒɒn ə 'grəʊts/ || dʒɑːn-/ a place in NE Scotland, thought of as being (though not actually) the most northern part of the mainland of Britain, esp. in the phrase "from Land's End to John O'Groats" —compare LAND'S END

**John Paul I** /,dʒɒn pɔːl dɒ 'fɜːst/ || dʒɑːn-, -'fɜːrst/, **Pope** (1912–78) a POPE who ruled for only 34 days before he died, but encouraged a simpler style of leading the Catholic Church

**John Paul II** /,dʒɒn pɔːl dɒ 'sekənd/ || dʒɑːn-, **Pope** (1920– ) the first Polish POPE, elected in 1978 and known for his

support of Roman Catholic teachings on issues such as BIRTH CONTROL and marriage, and opposition to ideas such as women becoming priests and modern dress for MONKS and NUNS

**johns** /dʒɒnz/ || dʒɑːnz/ *n* [P] see LONG JOHNS

**John-son** /'dʒɒnsən/ || 'dʒɑːn-, **A-my** /'eɪmi/ (1904–41) a British pilot who flew alone from London to Australia in 1930, and England to Cape Town in 1932. Her plane disappeared over the English Channel during the Second World War.

**Johnson, Andrew** (1808–75) an American Democrat politician, the 17th president of the US 1865–69

**Johnson, Ben** (1961– ) a Canadian runner who broke the world record for the 100 metres race in 1987, and again at the 1988 Olympic Games but was later disqualified (DISQUALIFY) for using drugs to help his performance

**Johnson, Dame Ce-li-a** /'siːliə/ (1908–82) an English actress remembered esp. for her role in the film *Brief Encounter*

**Johnson, Lyn-don Baines** /'lɪndən beɪnz/ also LBJ (1908–73) the 36th president of the USA (1963–69), a DEMOCRAT. As John F. Kennedy's vice-president, Johnson became president when Kennedy was killed. He was re-elected in 1964 and helped start many social programmes in his plans for a **Great Society**, but he became unpopular after increasing US involvement in Vietnam. Johnson was from Texas; his wife's name was **Lady Bird**.

**Johnson, Magic** (1959– ) an American BASKETBALL player famous for his excellent play and teamwork and for his happy attitude. In 1991 doctors told Johnson that he was HIV-positive (that he has the VIRUS which causes AIDS) and he began working to inform people about the illness.

**Johnson, Sam-u-el** /'sæmjʊəl/ (1709–84), known as **Dr Johnson**, an English CRITIC and dictionary writer, and a well-known figure in London society in the 18th century. He is considered to be a very well educated person and is often thought of in association with James Boswell, who wrote his life story (BIOGRAPHY).

**John the Bap-tist** /,jɒn 'bæptɪst/ || 'bæptɪst/ see SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST

**joie de viv-re** /,ʒwɑː dɒ 'viːvrə/ *n* [U] *Fr* great enjoyment of life: *She's full of/has lots of joie de vivre.*

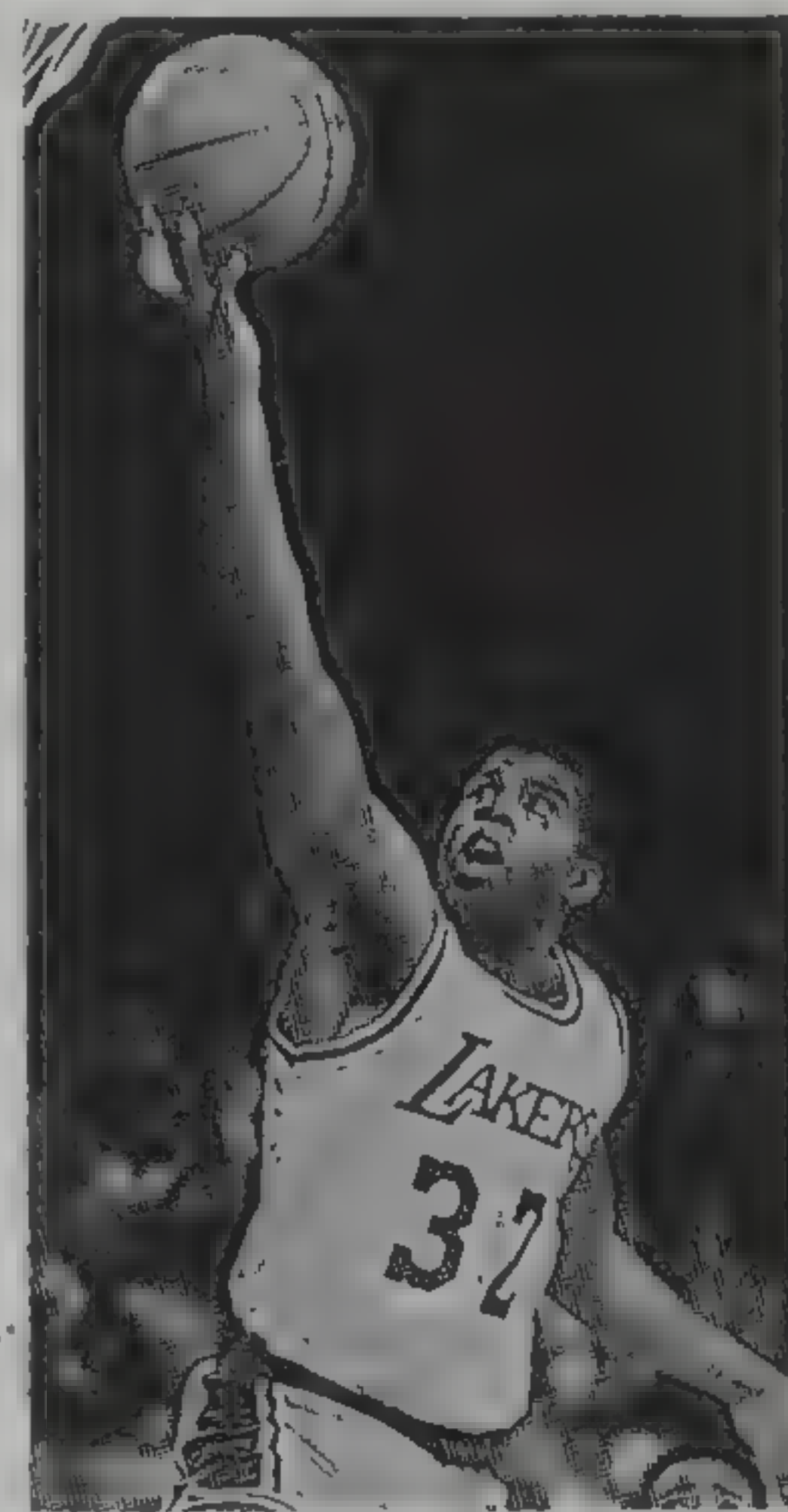
**join<sup>1</sup>** /dʒɔɪn/ *v* **1** [T (to, TOGETHER, UP)] to fasten or bring together; connect; unite: *Join the pieces of cloth with a loose stitch before finally sewing them together.* | *The hip bone is joined to the thigh bone.* | *The two towns are joined by a railway.* | (*fml*) *to join two people in marriage* **2** [T] to come together with; become united with; meet: *You go home and I'll join you later.* | *Will you join me for a drink?* (=come and sit, etc. with me and have a drink) *Will you join me in a drink?* (=have a drink with me) | *I'm sure you'll all join me in congratulating the bride and groom.* | *Where does this stream join the river?* **3** [I] to become united: *Where do the two streams join?* **4** [I;T] to become a member (of): *to join the army* | *to join the Labour party* **5** [T] to take part in (an activity) as a member of a group: *Come on in and join the fun/the party!* **6** **join battle** *fml* to begin fighting **7** **join hands** (with) to hold (each other's) hands: *We all joined hands and danced round in a circle.* —see also **join forces** (FORCE<sup>1</sup> (9))

**join in** *phr v* [I;T] (=join in sthg.) to take part in (an activity) as a member of a group: *She started singing and we all joined in.* | *We all joined in the singing.*

**join up** *phr v* [I] to become a member of an army, navy, etc.

**join with** sbdy. *phr v* [T (in) no pass.] to act together with; do the same thing as: *Will you now all join with me in drinking a toast to the bride and groom!*

Magic Johnson





**join**<sup>2</sup> *n* a place where two things are joined together: *It's so well made that you can't see the join.*

**join-er** /'dʒɔɪnə/ *n* 1 a maker of wooden doors, door-frames, windowframes, etc. —compare CARPENTER 2 *infml* a person who likes to join organizations: *He's never been much of a joiner.*

**join-er-y** /'dʒɔɪnəri/ *n* [U] the trade or work of a JOINER —compare CARPENTRY

**joint**<sup>1</sup> /dʒɔɪnt/ *n* 1 a connection between two bones, esp. one that can be bent: *The finger joints are called "knuckles".* | *The old lady had an artificial hip joint fitted.* 2 a place where things are joined together: *the joints in a pipe* —see also UNIVERSAL JOINT 3 *BrE* || **roast AmE**— a large piece of meat for cooking, esp. containing a bone, often eaten as part of a Sunday dinner with potatoes and other vegetables: *a joint of pork* 4 *derog sl* a public place, esp. one where people go for entertainment and usu. cheap or having a bad character or REPUTATION —see also CLIP JOINT 5 *sl* a cigarette containing the drug CANNABIS —see also **put someone's nose out of joint** (NOSE<sup>1</sup>)

**joint**<sup>2</sup> *adj* [A] shared by two or more people: *We did it together; it was a joint effort.* | *our joint bank account* | *to take joint action* | *joint owners* —~*ly adv*

**joint**<sup>3</sup> *v* [T] to cut (meat) into JOINTS (2)

**Joint Chiefs of Staff** /ˌjɔɪnt ˈtʃiɪfz ɒv stɑːf/ *n* [the] the group of leaders of the four main divisions of the American army

**joint cus-to-dy** /ˌjɔɪnt ˈkʌstədi/ *n* [U] the act or right of caring for someone, shared by two people, esp. when given in a court of law: *After the divorce, the parents were awarded joint custody of their children.*

**joint-ed** /'dʒɔɪntɪd/ *adj* having joints, esp. movable ones: *a jointed doll*

**joint hon-ours** /ˌjɔɪnt ˈhɒnz/ *n* *BrE* [U] a university degree course in which more than one main subject is studied and included in the name of the degree —compare SINGLE HONOURS

**joint res-o-lu-tion** /ˌjɔɪnt ˈrɛzəluʃən/ *n* a decision or law approved by both houses of the US Congress and signed by the president

**joint-stock com-pa-ny** /ˌjɔɪnt ˈstɒk kəmˌpəni/ || also **stock company AmE**— *n* a business company owned by all the people who have bought shares in it

**joint ven-ture** /ˌjɔɪnt ˈvɛntʃə/ *n* a business activity begun by two or more companies acting together, sharing the costs, risks, and profits

**joist** /dʒɔɪst/ *n* any of the beams onto which a floor is fixed

**joke**<sup>1</sup> /dʒəʊk/ *n* [C] 1 something said or done to amuse people and cause laughter, esp. a funny story or amusing trick: *She told/made/cracked some very funny jokes.* | *He played a joke on me by pretending he'd lost the tickets.* | *I was having (=sharing) a joke with her.* | *Can't you take a joke?* (=be amused by a joke against yourself) | *I don't see the joke.* (=understand what is funny) | *a dirty joke.* (=a joke about sex) —compare TRICK<sup>1</sup> (1,3) 2 something foolish; a person, thing, or event that is not taken seriously: *The exam was so easy it was a joke.* | *Your behaviour is/has gone beyond a joke.* (=is too serious to laugh at) | *It was no joke carrying those heavy bags.* (=it was very difficult, annoying, etc.) 3 **the joke's on him/her** he/she looks foolish, instead of the person he/she tried to play a joke on —see also PRACTICAL JOKE

**joke**<sup>2</sup> *v* [I (about, with)] to speak unseriously, or not seriously enough: *You mustn't joke with him about religion.* | *We often joke about the crazy things we used to do.* | *joking remarks* | *"Have you finished that job yet?" "You must be joking! I've hardly even started it."* | *Yes, that's very funny. But, joking apart/aside* (=we should now speak seriously), *what did he really say?* —**jokingly adv**: *I'm sure his remarks were meant jokingly.*

**jok-er** /'dʒəʊkə/ *n* 1 a person who likes to make jokes 2 *infml* a person who is not serious or who should not be taken seriously 3 an additional CARD<sup>1</sup> (1) with no fixed value, used in certain games 4 **joker in the pack** something or someone whose possible effect on future events cannot be known or guessed

**Jol-i-et** /'ʒɒliet || ʒəʊl'jeɪ/, **Lou-is** /'luːi/ (1645–1700) a French-Canadian EXPLORER who, with Jacques Marquette, discovered the upper Mississippi River in 1673

**jol-li-fi-ca-tion** /ˌdʒɒlɪfɪˈkeɪʃən||ˌdʒɔː-/ also **jollifications pl.**— *n* [C;U] *infml* harmless fun and enjoyment

**jol-ly**<sup>1</sup> /'dʒɒli||'dʒɔːli/ *adj* cheerful; happy; pleasant: *a jolly person/laugh* —**jollily adv** —**jollity, jolliness n** [U]

**jolly**<sup>2</sup> *adv* *BrE infml* 1 very: *We all had a jolly good time.* | *The questions were jolly difficult.* 2 **jolly well** (used for giving force to an expression) certainly; really. This use of **jolly** is often thought to be typical of upper-class people: *I jolly well told him what I thought of him.*

**jolly**<sup>3</sup> *v* [T +obj+into, out of] *infml, esp. BrE* to persuade; urge gently: *They jollied her into going with them.*

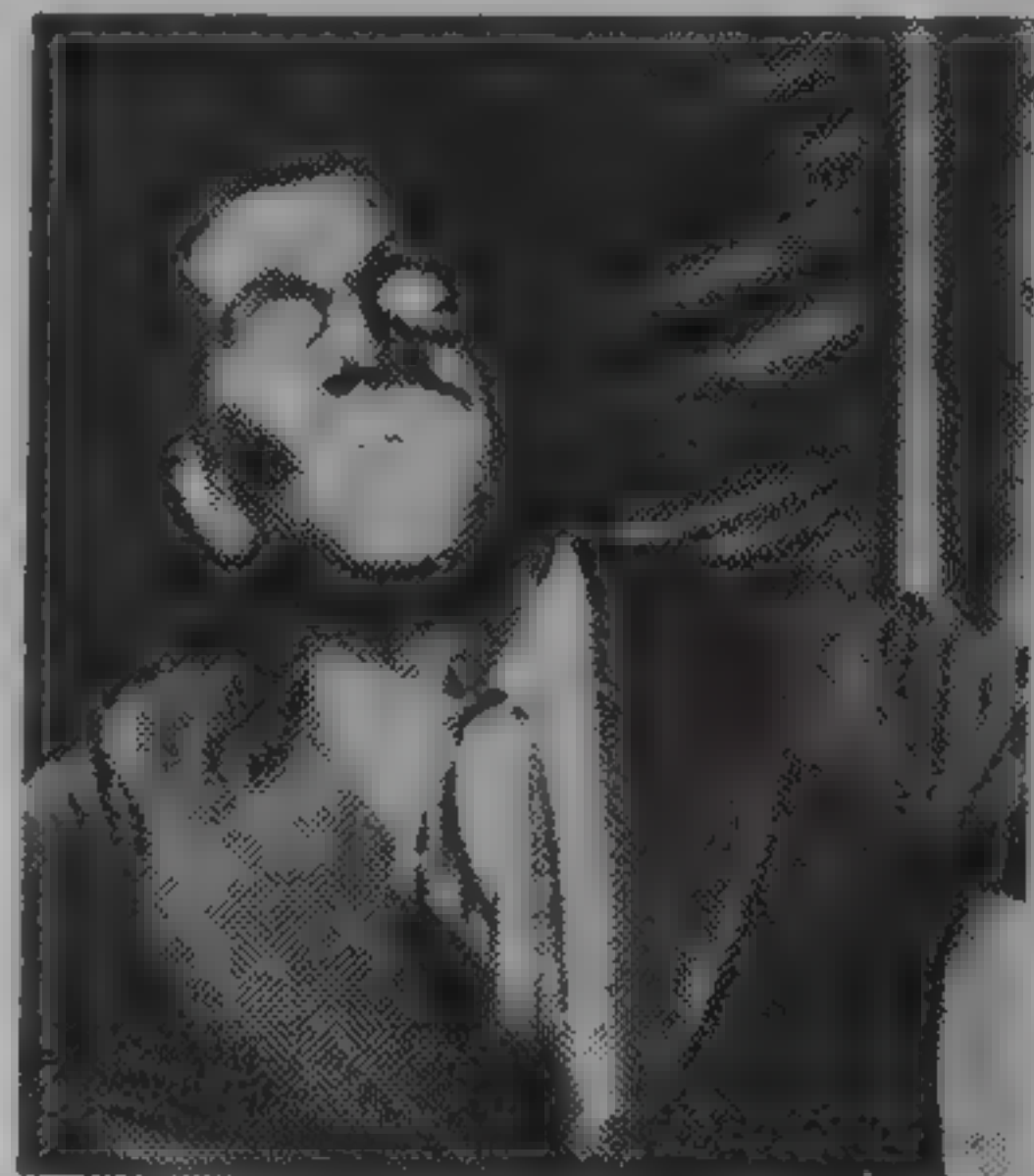
**jolly sbdy. along phr v** [T] to encourage in a joking or friendly way: *He wasn't very keen to finish the job, but I jollied him along.*

**jolly sthg.** ↔ **up phr v** [T] *infml* to make (esp. a place) bright and cheerful: *to jolly up the room with some red cushions*

**Jolly Roger** /ˌdʒɒli ˈrɒɡə/ *n* [(the) C] the flag of a PIRATE of former times, showing a SKULL and bones crossed under it

**Jol-son** /'dʒəʊlsən/, **Al** /æ/ (1886–1950) a white American singer, born in Lithuania, who, like other performers at the beginning of the century, used to paint his face to look like a black man. He is known for his very emotional and exciting performances, and for being the star of the first film with sound, *The Jazz Singer*, in 1927. His many famous songs include *Swanee* and *My Mammy*.

Al Jolson



**jolt**<sup>1</sup> /dʒɔʊlt/ *v* [I;T] to (cause to) shake forcefully: *The cart jolted (along) over the rough road.* | *The fall jolted every bone in his body.* | (fig.) *Her angry words jolted (=shocked) him (out of his dream).*

**jolt**<sup>2</sup> *n* a sudden forceful shake: *We felt a series of jolts as the plane touched down.*

**jo-nah** /'dʒəʊnə/ *n* (often cap.) a person who seems to bring bad luck

**Jonah** a character in the Old Testament whose duty was to warn of the destruction of the city of Nineveh. He tried to escape this by getting on a ship but was thrown into the sea by the CREW as a bringer of bad luck, and spent three days and nights inside a WHALE before coming to land.

**Jones**<sup>1</sup> /dʒəʊnz/, **Ca-sey** /'keɪsi/ (1863–1900) an American train driver and FOLK HERO who saved the lives of passengers in a train crash, but was killed himself

**Jones**<sup>2</sup>, **Indiana** a character played by the actor Harrison Ford in three films directed by Steven Spielberg including *Raiders of the Lost Ark*. The films were very popular and full of action and excitement: *"The dashing archaeological adventurer Indiana Jones is back on a new quest — and in a deadly race against evil..."*

Harrison Ford as Indiana Jones



**Jones**<sup>3</sup>, **In-i-go** /'ɪnɪgəʊ/ (1573–1652) an English ARCHITECT and theatre DESIGNER who was responsible for many important houses and buildings, esp. in London

**Jones**<sup>4</sup>, **Tom** (1940– ) a British popular music singer from S Wales, who was successful in Britain in the 1960s and later in the US. He is known for wearing tight trousers and dancing in a way that is thought to be sexually exciting.

**Jones-es** /'dʒəʊnzɪz/ *n* see **keep up with the Joneses** (KEEP up)

**Jones-town** /'dʒəʊnztaʊn/ a settlement in Guyana of the followers of **Jim Jones**, a religious CULT leader. In a religious ceremony, the people living there all killed themselves by drinking poison together, in what became known as the **Jonestown massacre**.

**Jon-son** /'dʒɒnsən||'dʒɔːn-, **Ben** (1572–1637) an English writer of plays, poetry and criticism, known for plays such as *Volpone*, *The Alchemist*, and *Bartholomew Fair*



**Jop·lin** /'dʒɒplɪn||'dʒɑ:p-/ **Jan·is** /'dʒænjɪs/ (1943–70) an American popular music singer, known for her wild, very active performances in the 1960s and for her wild private life. Her early death was thought to have been caused by drugs, and for many people she represents the PSYCHEDELIC, ACID ROCK, HIPPIE period.

**Joplin, Scott** (1868–1917) an American piano player and COMPOSER known esp. for his RAGTIME music, such as *The Entertainer*, which was used in the film *The Sting* in 1973, making Joplin famous again

**Jor·dan**<sup>1</sup> /'dʒɔ:dən||'dʒɔ:r-/ an Arab state in the Middle East, bordering on Israel, Syria, and Saudi Arabia; capital Amman. The country is divided by the River Jordan, which runs from the N to the S of the country, separating it into the West Bank (occupied by Israel since 1967) and the East Bank; East Bank population 3,100,000 (1989); West Bank population 1,000,000 (1989). —**ian** /dʒɔ:'deɪniən||dʒɔ:r-/ *n*, *adj*

**Jordan**<sup>2</sup> [the] a river in Israel and Jordan which flows to the Dead Sea. It is mentioned in the Bible

**Jordan, Mi·chael** /'maɪkəl/ (1963– ) a BASKETBALL player for the Chicago Bulls team, who is a very popular personality in the US, esp. with young people

**Jor·dans** /'dʒɔ:dənz||'dɔ:r-/ *n* [P] *tdmk* a make of sports shoes

**Jo·seph** /'dʒəʊzɪf/ in the Bible, one of the sons of Jacob. Jacob gave Joseph a COAT OF MANY COLOURS but his brothers, jealous of him, sold him as a slave to some Egyptians. Joseph became an adviser to Pharaoh, king of Egypt, and in the end brought his people to settle in Egypt.

**Joseph** in the Bible, the husband of the Virgin Mary. Joseph was a CARPENTER in Nazareth

**Joseph, Sir Keith** /kɪ:θ/ (1918– ) a politician in the British Conservative Party who was secretary of state for education and science (1981–86) in Margaret Thatcher's government

**Joseph, Chief** (1840?–1904) a leader of a TRIBE of Native Americans who fought against the US army when the army tried to force them to move from their lands to a RESERVATION. When Chief Joseph gave up the fight, he said "I am tired of fighting. My heart is sick and sad. From where the sun now stands I will fight no more forever." —see also NATIVE AMERICAN (CULTURAL NOTE)

**Joseph and the A·maz·ing Tech·ni·col·or Dream·coat** /,dʒəʊzɪf ənd ði ə'meɪzɪŋ ,teknɪkəl ə'dri:mkoʊt||-lə-/ a musical play based on the life of Joseph, the son of Jacob in the Bible

**Jo·se·phine** /'dʒəʊsɪfɪn/ (1763–1814) the EMPRESS of France from 1796 to 1809, the wife of Napoleon, who divorced (DIVORCE) her in 1809 because she had not produced any children. She is known esp. in connection with the phrase "Not tonight, Josephine", said to have been spoken by Napoleon, refusing his wife's desire for sex, and used in a humorous way today. —see colour picture on page 1015

**Joseph of Ar·i·ma·the·a** /,dʒəʊzɪf əv ,ærɪmə'θi:ə/ in the Bible, a follower of Jesus who asked for the body of Jesus after the CRUCIFIXION. He buried it in a TOMB of rock.

**josh** /dʒɒʃ||dʒɑ:f/ *v* *infml*, *esp. AmE* **1** [I] to joke **2** [T] to make fun of, without wanting to hurt: *He's always been keen on collecting unusual hats, although all his friends josh him about it.* —**josh** *n*

**Josh·u·a** /'dʒɒʃjʊə||'dʒɑ:fʊə/ a character in the Old Testament who led the Jews to the land of Canaan. People know of him in connection with Jericho, where he is said to have blown his TRUMPETS and caused the walls to fall down.

**joss stick** /'dʒɒs ,stɪk||'dʒɑ:s-/ *n* a stick of INCENSE<sup>1</sup>

**jost·le** /'dʒɒslə||'dʒɑ:-/ *v* [I;T] (of a person) to knock or push against (someone) rather roughly: *The players were jostled by an angry crowd as they left the field.*

**jot**<sup>1</sup> /dʒɒt||dʒɑ:t/ *n* [S (of)] *usu. in negatives* a very small amount; IOTA: *There isn't a jot of truth in it.*

**jot**<sup>2</sup> *v* -**tt**- [T (DOWN)] to write quickly, esp. without preparation: *I'll jot down some notes while he's speaking.* | *He jotted her address down on his newspaper.*

**jot·ter** /'dʒɒtə||'dʒɑ:-/ *n* *BrE* a number of pieces of paper joined together, used for writing notes on

**jot·ting** /'dʒɒtɪŋ||'dʒɑ:-/ *n* [*usu. pl.*] a short note, *usu. written quickly*: *It's not really an article, just a few preparatory jottings.*

**joule** /dʒu:l||dʒu:l, dʒaʊl/ *n* *tech* a measure of ENERGY or work

**jour·nal** /'dʒɜ:nəl||-ʒɪr-/ *n* **1** a serious magazine, *usu. produced by a specialist society*: *the British Medical Journal* | *the Journal of the Cricket Society* **2** *lit* a *usu. daily* record of events; DIARY: *I kept a journal during my visit to China.*

▷ USAGE Both **journal** *lit* and **diary** can mean "(a book containing) a record of the events in a person's life" but **diary** is the more usual word for a record of ordinary, daily life. **Diary** *esp. BrE/calendar AmE* (not **journal**) is the word for the book in which you write down appointments and things to be done in the future. ◀

**jour·nal·ese** /,dʒɜ:nəl'ɪz||-ʒɪr-/ *n* [U] *derog* language considered to be typical of newspapers, esp. in being full of too-often-used expressions

**jour·nal·is·m** /'dʒɜ:nəl-ɪzəm||-ʒɪr-/ *n* [U] the profession of writing for newspapers and magazines —**istic** /,dʒɜ:nəl'ɪstɪk||-ʒɪr-/ *adj*

**jour·nal·ist** /'dʒɜ:nəl-ɪst||-ʒɪr-/ *n* a person whose profession is journalism —compare REPORTER

**jour·ney**<sup>1</sup> /'dʒɜ:ni||-ʒɪr-/ *esp. BrE* || *usu. trip AmE* *n* a trip from one place to another, esp. by land over quite a long distance: *a long train journey across Europe* | *It was years since I'd made the journey to (=gone to) Scotland.* | *If you're going on a long car journey, make sure the vehicle's in good condition.* | *It's three days' journey/a three-day journey from here to Berlin.* | *Have a safe journey!* | *They broke (=interrupted) their journey and stayed the night at a hotel.* | *some books to read on your journey* | (*lit*) *to reach one's journey's end* (=the end of one's journey) —see TRAVEL (USAGE)

**journey**<sup>2</sup> *v* [I+*adv/prep*] *lit* to travel; go on a journey: *journeying across Africa on horseback*

**jour·ney·man** /'dʒɜ:nɪmən||-ʒɪr-/ *n* -**men** /mən/ (*usu. in comb.*) **1** a trained workman who works for another person and is often paid by the day: *a journeyman printer* **2** an experienced person whose work is fairly (but not very) good: *an example of the journeyman work this painter produced in his later years*

**jour·no** /'dʒɜ:nəʊ||-ʒɪr-/ *n* -**nos** *sl* for JOURNALIST

**joust** /dʒaʊst/ *v* [I (with)] (in former times) to fight on horseback with LANCES (=long spears), esp. as a sport; this was often done in the form of a TOURNAMENT to entertain a king

**Jove** /dʒəʊv/ **1** the god Jupiter **2** (*poet*) the PLANET Jupiter **3** *By Jove!* *old-fash infml* (an expression of surprise, also used for adding force to other expressions): *By Jove, you're right!*

**jo·vi·al** /'dʒəʊviəl/ *adj* cheerful; friendly: *a jovial greeting/old man* —*~ly adv* —*~ity* /,dʒəʊvi'ælɪti/ *n* [U]

**jowl** /dʒaʊl/ also **jowls** *pl.* — *n* **1** the lower part of the side of the face, esp. loose skin and flesh near the lower jaw **2** -**jowled** /dʒaʊld/ having jowls of the stated kind: *a heavy-jowled dog* —see also **cheek by jowl** (CHEEK<sup>1</sup>)

**joy** /dʒɔɪ/ *n* **1** [U] great happiness: *She was filled with joy at the thought of seeing her daughter again.* | *They jumped for joy (=were very happy) when they heard the good news.* | *To his mother's joy, he won first prize.* **2** [C] a person or thing that causes joy: (*fml*) *She had remained a staunch friend throughout all the joys and sorrows of life.* | (*fml*) *My children are a great joy to me.* | (*infml*) *This car is a joy to drive.* (=is easy, and therefore pleasing, to drive) | *This rose bush is my husband's pride and joy.* **3** [U *usu. in questions and negatives*] *BrE infml* success: *I tried to get her on the telephone, but I didn't have any joy.* (=I wasn't able to)

**Joyce** /dʒɔɪs/, **James** (1882–1941) an Irish writer who greatly influenced (INFLUENCE) the way English NOVELS were written, with his use of unusual and invented words and different style of writing. His novels include *Ulysses* and *Finnegans Wake*.

**joy·ful** /'dʒɔɪfəl/ *adj* *fml* full of or causing joy: *Imagine the joyful scene when they were reunited with their lost daughter.* —*~ly adv*: *The bells rang out joyfully.* —*~ness* *n* [U]

**joy·less** /'dʒɔɪləs/ *adj* without joy; unhappy: *The funeral supper was a joyless affair.* —*~ly adv* —*~ness* *n* [U]



**Joy of Cook-ing** /jɔɪˌkʊkɪŋ/ *The* the name of a very popular American cookbook which has instructions on how to cook many standard American and foreign dishes

**joy-ous** /'dʒɔɪəs/ *adj* lit full of or causing joy: *a joyous heart/song/opportunity* — *~ly adv* — *~ness n* [U]

**joy-ride** /'dʒɔɪraɪd/ *n infml* a ride for pleasure in a vehicle, esp. a stolen car, often with careless driving — **joyride** *v* [I] — **rider n**: *Your car was taken by joyriders, sir, and dumped a few miles away.*

**joy-stick** /'dʒɔɪstɪk/ *n* an upright handle moved to control the operation of something, esp. the movement of an aircraft: *the joystick of a video game* | *a computer joystick*

**JP** /,dʒeɪˈpiː/ *n* a Justice of the Peace; MAGISTRATE

**Jr** *written abbrev. for:* JUNIOR<sup>1</sup>

**JR** /,dʒeɪˈɑː/ J R Ewing, a character in the American television series *Dallas* which was very popular in the US and Britain. JR was the oldest brother of the Ewing family and head of their oil company. Although he was RUTHLESS and deceitful, he was a very popular character. His fame spread even to people who did not watch the programmes, esp. when someone tried to kill him, and “Who shot JR?” became a popular phrase. — see also DALLAS

**Juan Car-los** /,hwɑːnˈkɑːlɒs/—/ˈkɑːrlɒs/, **King** (1938– ) the King of Spain since 1975, responsible for introducing DEMOCRACY to Spain after the DICTATORSHIP of Franco

**jub-i-lant** /'dʒuːbɪlənt/ *adj* filled with or expressing great joy, esp. at a success: *The team were jubilant after their victory in the Cup.* | *jubilant shouts* — *~ly adv*

**ju-bi-la-tion** /,dʒuːbɪˈleɪʃən/ *n* [U] great joy; REJOICING: *There was jubilation in the winning team's home town.*

**ju-bi-lee** /'dʒuːbɪliː, ˈdʒuːbɪˈliː/ *n* (a special occasion marking) the return of the date of some important event — see also DIAMOND JUBILEE, GOLDEN JUBILEE, SILVER JUBILEE

**Ju-dah** /'dʒuːdə/ in the Bible, a son of Jacob

**Ju-da-is-m** /'dʒuːdeɪ-ɪzəm, ˈdʒuːdə-||ˈdʒuːdə-, ˈdʒuːdi-/ *n* [U] the religion of the Jews; the religion based on the Old Testament of the Bible, the Talmud, and the later teachings of the RABBIS. Judaism is the oldest religion with one God, and both Christianity and Islam are descended from it. Jews believe that God made an agreement with them to protect them if they served Him faithfully, obeyed his law, and recognized no other gods. The law is believed to have been given to Moses in the form of the Ten Commandments. The Jews came to believe in a Messiah after they had spent many years without a country of their own, but they do not agree with Christians that Jesus Christ was the true Messiah. Features of the religion today include keeping the Sabbath, celebrating Passover and other holy days, and eating KOSHER food, all of which have helped in the preservation of Judaism — see also ZIONISM — **Judaic** /dʒuːˈdeɪ-ɪk/ *adj*

**Ju-das** /'dʒuːdəs/ **1** also Judas Iscariot in the Bible, the follower of Jesus who betrayed (BETRAY) him, leading to his ARREST and death. Judas received “thirty pieces of silver” for betraying Jesus — see colour picture on page 424 **2 derog** a disloyal person who secretly helps the enemies of his friends; TRAITOR: *You Judas!*

**jud-der** /'dʒʌdə/ also **jutter** *AmE— v* [I] *BrE* (esp. of a vehicle) to shake violently: *The driver pulled the emergency brake and the train juddered to a halt.*

**Jude the Ob-scure** /,dʒuːd ði əbˈskjʊə/ a book by Thomas Hardy, written in 1895. It is a very sad story, set in Wessex, about a young man's life.

**judge**<sup>1</sup> /dʒʌdʒ/ *v* **1** [T] to act as a judge in (a law case); TRY<sup>1</sup> (5): *Who will judge the next case?* **2** [I;T] to decide the result of (a competition) or give an official decision about (people or things taking part in a competition): *to judge a talent contest* | *to judge the exhibits at a flower show* **3** [I;T] to form or give an opinion about (someone or something), esp. after carefully considering all the information: *It seems like a good proposal, but without all the facts I can't really judge.* | *Try to judge the distance from here to that car.* | *Schools tend to be judged by the performance of their students in exams.* | *Judging by what everyone says about him, I'd say he has a good chance of winning.* [+wh-] *It's difficult to judge where the responsibility for the accident really lies.* | [+that] *The committee judged that the scheme was unlikely to produce an acceptable profit.* | [+obj+adj/n] *The scheme was judged (to be) unprofitable.*

**judge**<sup>2</sup> *n* **1** (often *cap.*) a public official who has the power to decide questions brought before a court of law: *a high-court judge* | *The judge sentenced her to 12 months' imprisonment.* | *Judge Jeffreys* — see colour picture on page 751 and see also extra information on page 742

► **CULTURAL NOTE** In Britain judges of the High Court are chosen by the Lord Chancellor from BARRISTERS. SOLICITORS who have more than 13 years' experience can be appointed as judges in the Crown Court and County Court. In the US, Supreme Court judges are chosen by the president and must be approved by the Senate. Many judges in the lower courts are elected by the people. ◀

**2** a person who has been appointed to decide the result of a competition: *The panel of judges included several well-known writers.* **3** [(of)] a person who has the knowledge and experience to give valuable opinions: *I'm no judge of music, but I know what I like.* | *She's a good judge of character.* | *I don't like this wine — not that I'm any judge.*

**judg-ment, judgement** /'dʒʌdʒmənt/ *n* **1** [U] the ability to make decisions that are based on careful consideration of facts, principles, etc.: *a man of sound/weak judgment* | *Her decision seems to show a lack of political judgment.* *an error of judgment* | *I can't decide for you; you'll have to use your own judgment.* | *He did the right thing, but more by luck than judgment.* **2** [C] an opinion: *to form a judgment* | *In my judgment, we should accept the employer's offer.* | *I let him go, against my better judgment.* (=although I knew it was probably a mistake) **3** [C;U (on)] an official decision given by a judge or a court of law: *He passed (=gave) judgment on the guilty man.* | *an impartial judgment* **4 sit in judgment on** to take the responsibility of judging (a person or their behaviour), esp. in order to find fault: *You have no right to sit in judgment on her; you'd probably have done exactly the same thing if you'd been in her position.* — see also VALUE JUDGMENT

**judg-men-tal, judgemental** /dʒʌdʒˈmentl/ *adj* often *derog* too quick to form (usu. moral) judgments; moralistic: *His parents tend to be quite judgmental about his friends.*

**judgment day** /'juːdʒmənt deɪ/ also **day of judgment, last judgment** — (often *cap.*) (according to various religions, esp. Christianity) the day when, after the world has come to an end, God will judge everyone for the things they have done in life, and the dead will also rise up and be judged on their lives' actions

**ju-di-ca-ture** /'dʒuːdɪkətʃə/ *n* **1** [the+S+sing./pl. v] the judiciary **2** [U] *fml* the power of giving justice in a court of law

**ju-di-cial** /dʒuːˈdɪʃəl/ *adj* of or related to a court of law, judges, or their judgments: *a judicial decision/ruling* | *to bring/take judicial proceedings* — compare JUDICIOUS, LEGISLATIVE — *~ly adv*

**ju-di-cia-ry** /dʒuːˈdɪʃəri/—/ˈfieri, -ˈʃəri/ *n* [the+sing./pl. v] all the judges in the courts of law, considered as one group, and forming one of the branches of government: *The judiciary has/have been consulted.* — compare EXECUTIVE<sup>2</sup> (2), LEGISLATURE

**ju-di-cious** /dʒuːˈdɪʃəs/ *adj fml* having or showing the ability to form sensible opinions, make sensible decisions, etc.; PRUDENT: *a judicious choice/move* — compare JUDICIAL — *~ly adv* — *~ness n* [U]

**ju-do** /'dʒuːdəʊ/ *n* [U] a type of self-defence from the Far East, based on holding and throwing one's opponent, often practised as sport: *a black belt at judo* | *judo lessons*

**Judy** see PUNCH AND JUDY SHOW

**jug**<sup>1</sup> /dʒʌg/ *n* **1** [C] *BrE* || **pitcher** *AmE— a* a container for holding liquids that has a handle and a lip for pouring: *a glass/earthenware jug* **b** also **jugful** /-fʊl/— the amount a jug will hold: *two jugs/jugfuls of water* — see picture on page 711 **2** [C] *AmE* **a** a pot for holding liquids that has a narrow opening at the top that can usu. be closed with a CORK **b** also **jugful**— the amount this will hold **3** [(the) U] *old-fash BrE sl* prison: *He's back in (the) jug again.*

**jug**<sup>2</sup> *v -gg-* [T] *BrE* to cook (meat, esp. HARE) in liquid in a closed pot: *jugged hare*

**jug-ger-naut** /'dʒʌgənɔːt/-ər-/ *n* **1** *BrE infml, usu. derog* a very large heavy TRUCK that carries loads over long distances **2** a great force or object that destroys everything it meets

**jug-gle** /'dʒʌgəl/ *v* [I (with);T] **1** to keep (several objects)



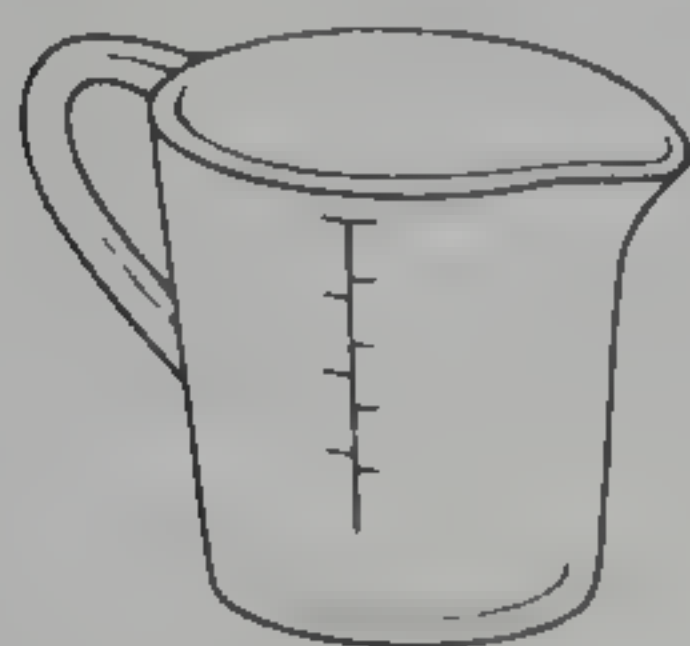
in the air at the same time by throwing them up quickly and catching them again: *His favourite party trick is juggling with plates.* **2** to arrange or deal with (something) cleverly, esp. in order to deceive: *By juggling (with) the figures, they gave the impression that the company had made a profit.* —*gler* *n*



jug BrE/ pitcher AmE



jug AmE



measuring jug



gravy boat

**jug-u-lar** /'dʒʌgjuːlə/ *n* **1** a jugular vein **2** go for the jugular *infml* to attack very fiercely so as to cause as much hurt or damage as possible: *When threatened with the sack he really went for the jugular, accusing his boss of lying and corruption.*

**jugular vein** /ˌdʒʊɡjʊlə/ *n* [usu. sing.] either of two large tubes in the body, one on each side of the neck, that take blood from the head back to the heart

**juice**¹ /dʒuːs/ *n* **1** [C;U] the liquid from fruit, vegetables, or meat: *Is this orange juice sweetened or unsweetened?* | *a carton of tomato juice* **2** [C usu. pl.;U] the liquid in certain parts of the body, esp. the stomach, that helps people and animals to use (DIGEST) food: *digestive/gastric juices* **3** [U] *sl* something that produces power, such as electricity, gas, or petrol: *Our car uses a lot of juice.*

**juice**² *v*

**juice** sthg. ↔ **up** *phr v* [T] *AmE infml* to give more life, excitement, fun, etc., to

**juic-y** /'dʒuːsi/ *adj* **1** containing a lot of juice: *a juicy orange* | *a juicy steak* **2** *infml* interesting, esp. because providing information about bad behaviour: *I want to hear all the juicy details of the scandal!* **3** *infml* desirable, esp. because likely to produce a lot of money: *a fat juicy contract that will make us all rich* —*iness* *n* [U]

**ju-jit-su, jiu-jitsu** /ˌdʒuːˈdʒɪtsuː/ *n* [U] a type of fighting and self-defence from the Far East in which one holds, throws, and often hits one's opponent

**ju-ju** /'dʒuːdʒuː/ *n* [C;U] (the power of) a magic charm in West Africa

**ju-jube** /'dʒuːdʒuːb/ *n* a small jelly-like sweet, often with throat medicine added

**juke-box** /'dʒuːkboːks/ *n* a music machine, found in places of entertainment, PUBS, etc., which plays records when a coin is put into it

**ju-lep** /'dʒuːləp/ also **mint julep**— *n* an American drink in which alcohol and sugar are mixed and poured over ice, and MINT³ is added. Americans connect this drink with summertime and the South, where it is popular. It is a custom to drink it while watching the Kentucky Derby.

**Ju-li-et** /'dʒuːliət/ **1** the female lover in Shakespeare's play *Romeo and Juliet* —see also ROMEO AND JULIET and see colour picture on page 1146 **2** the female half of any COUPLE in love: *She was his Juliet.*

**Ju-li-us Cae-sar** /ˌdʒuːliəs 'siːzə/ a play by William Shakespeare, in which the Roman leader Julius Caesar is murdered. One of the murderers is his friend, Brutus, who thinks Caesar is taking too much power. After his death, his friend Mark Antony makes a famous speech to the crowd beginning with the words "Friends, Romans, countrymen, lend me your ears". —see also MARK ANTONY, BRUTUS, JULIUS CAESAR, and see colour picture on page 1146

**Ju-ly** /dʒuːˈlaɪ/ (written abbrev. **Jul.**) *n* [C;U] the seventh month of the year, between June and August: This office

opened in July 1991. | She started work here last July/the July before last.

► **CULTURAL NOTE** People connect July with summer, warm weather, and the start of the long school holidays. In the US, 4th July is Independence Day. ◀

**jum-ble**¹ /'dʒʌmbəl/ *v* [T (UP, TOGETHER) often pass.] to mix in disorder: *Various books and papers were jumbled up/jumbled together on her desk.*

**jumble**² *n* **1** [S (of)] a disorderly mixture (of things or ideas): *a jumble of confused ideas* **2** [U] *BrE* unwanted things suitable for a jumble sale

**jumble sale** /'..-/ *BrE* || **rummage sale** *AmE*— *n* a sale of used articles as a way of collecting money for a good purpose, e.g. to help a hospital or a school: *We're holding a jumble sale to raise money for the famine victims.*

**jum-bo** /'dʒʌmbəʊ/ also **jumbo-sized** /'..-/ *adj* [A] *infml* larger than others of the same kind: *a jumbo-sized plate of ice cream*

**Jumbo** a name for an ELEPHANT, as used by children, and in stories and songs

**jumbo jet** /'..-/ also **jumbo** *infml*, 747— *n* a very large passenger aircraft built by the Boeing Corporation

**jump**¹ /dʒʌmp/ *v* **1** [I] to push oneself into the air or away from a surface by the force of one's legs; spring: *The children jumped up and down.* | *I jumped over the wall/out of the window/into the river.* | *She jumped to her feet and ran out of the room.* | *We managed to jump clear of the car before it hit the wall.* **2** [T] to cross or go over by jumping: *He jumped the stream.* | *The horse jumped the fence.* **3** [I] to make a quick sudden movement as a result of strong feeling: *His heart jumped when he heard the news.* | *I nearly jumped out of my skin when I saw the snake under my bed.* **4** [I+adv/prep] to move suddenly from one point to another, often missing out what comes in between: *Her lecture was hard to follow because she kept jumping from one subject to another.* | *I jumped (ahead) to the last section of the report to see what the committee had recommended.* **5** [I] (esp. of money or quantity) to rise suddenly and by a large amount: *The price of oil jumped sharply in 1973.* | *Their profits jumped from £3.5 million to £22 million in a single year.* **6** [T] *infml* to leave, pass, or escape from (something) illegally or without permission: *One of the sailors jumped ship at Gibraltar.* | *to jump the (traffic) lights* | *to jump bail* **7** [T] *infml*, esp. *AmE* to travel on (a train) without paying: *He jumped a freight (train) in Texas.* **8** [T] *infml* to attack suddenly: *A gang of youths jumped me in the park.* **9** [T] JUMP-START **10** **jump a claim** esp. *AmE* to try to claim valuable land which someone else already owns **11** **jump down someone's throat** *infml* to attack someone in words, strongly and unexpectedly, esp. before they have finished talking **12** **jump rope** *AmE* for SKIP¹ (5) **13** **jump the gun** *infml* to take action too soon or before the proper time: *I know he's a suspect, but isn't it jumping the gun a bit to arrest him immediately?* **14** **jump the queue** *BrE* || **cut in line** *AmE* to obtain an unfair advantage over others who have been waiting longer **15** **jump to it** *infml* to hurry: *You'll have to jump to it if you want to catch the train.*

**jump at** sthg. *phr v* [T] to accept eagerly: *She jumped at the chance to go abroad.*

**jump on** sbdy. *phr v* [T] *infml* to speak to sharply, showing disapproval, esp. unfairly: *She jumps on me every time I make the slightest mistake.*

**jump**² *n* **1** an act of jumping: *a good jump* **2** a thing to be jumped over: *The horse cleared all the jumps.* **3** **be/stay one jump ahead** *infml* to do the right thing because one knows or guesses what one's competitors are going to do —see also HIGH JUMP, LONG JUMP, RUNNING JUMP

**jump ball** /'..-/ *n* (in BASKETBALL) an action at the beginning of a game and at some times during it in which the ball is thrown into the air by the REFEREE (judge) and one player from each team jumps to gain control of it



jumble sale





**jumped-up** /ˌɪː ˈɹʌ/ *adj* [A] *informal derog, esp. BrE* having too great an idea of one's own importance, esp. because of having just risen to a higher position or higher social class

**jump-er** /ˈdʒʌmpə/ *n* **1** a person or animal that jumps **2** *BrE* || *sweater AmE* a woollen garment for the top half of the body **3** *AmE* a dress without SLEEVES, usu. worn over a BLOUSE

**jumper cables** /ˈɪː ˌɹ/ *n* [P] *AmE* for JUMP-LEADS

**jumping-off place** /ˌɪː ˈɹ/ also **jumping-off point**— *n* a point to start from, esp. at the beginning of a journey or plan

**jump-jet** /ˈɪː ˌɹ/ *n* *esp. BrE* a JET aircraft which can take off and land straight from or onto the ground, without needing a long RUNWAY—see also HARRIER JUMP JET

**jump-lead** /ˈdʒʌmp liːd/ *n* [P] *BrE* ||  **jumper cables AmE** thick wires used to connect the batteries (BATTERY (1)) of two cars in order to jump-start one of them

**jump shot** /ˈɪː ˌɹ/ *n* (in BASKETBALL) a throw of the ball towards the basket in which the player jumps before throwing the ball

**jump-start** /ˌɪː ˈɹ/ *v* [T] to start (a car) using the power of the BATTERY from another car

**jump-suit** /ˈdʒʌmpsuːt, -sjuːt||-suzt/ *n* a one-piece garment combining top and trousers

**jump-y** /ˈdʒʌmpi/ *adj* nervously excited, esp. because of guilt or because one is expecting something bad to happen —*ily adv* —*iness n* [U]

**junction** /ˈdʒʌŋkʃən/ *n* a place where things join or come together: *a busy railway junction where lines from all over the country meet* | *at the junction of Vine Street and Gordon Road*

**junction** /ˈdʒʌŋktʃən/ *n* *fml* a particular point in time or in a course of events: *At this critical juncture in the negotiations we must be careful not to upset the other side.*

**June** /dʒuːn/ (*written abbrev. Jun.*) *n* [C;U] the sixth month of the year, between May and July: *It happened on June the second/on the second of June(AmE) on June second.* | *This office opened in June 1991.* | *She started work here last June/the June before last.*

► **CULTURAL NOTE** People connect June with the beginning of summer, warm weather, and events in Britain such as Wimbledon, Ascot, etc. ◀

**Ju-neau** /ˈdʒuːnəʊ/ the capital city of Alaska, US

**Jung** /jʊŋ/, **Carl Gus-tav** /kɑːl ˈgustaːv||kɑːrl ˈgʌs-/ (1875–1961) a Swiss PSYCHIATRIST who worked with Sigmund Freud, and studied the importance of dreams and religion in problems of the mind —*ian adj* : *Jungian analysis*

**Jung-frau** /ˈjʊŋfraʊ/ [*the*] a mountain in the Swiss Alps, in SW central Switzerland

**jungle** /ˈdʒʌŋɡəl/ *n* **1** [C;U] a tropical forest too thick to walk through easily: *the jungles of South America* | *jungle animals* | *jungle warfare* | (fig.) *Your garden's a bit of a jungle.* **2** [C] a disorderly mass of things that is hard to understand: *the jungle of tax laws*—compare FOREST; see also CONCRETE JUNGLE, LAW OF THE JUNGLE

**Jungle Book** /ˈɪː ˌɹ/, **The** a book of stories by Rudyard Kipling, about a young boy called Mowgli who is brought up in the jungle by animals, such as Baloo the bear and Bagheera the PANTHER. It was made into a successful CARTOON film by Walt Disney.

**jungle gym** /ˈɪː ˌɹ/ *n* *AmE* for CLIMBING FRAME

**ju-ni-or** /ˈdʒuːniə/ *n, adj* [(to)] **1** (someone) who is younger: *He is my junior (by several years).*—compare SENIOR (1) **2** (someone) of low or lower rank: *a very junior officer/minister* | *He is junior to me, though he's older.* | *a junior partner in a law firm*—compare SENIOR (2) **3** *BrE* a pupil at a JUNIOR SCHOOL **4** *AmE* (a student) of the third year in a four-year course at HIGH SCHOOL or university—compare FRESHMAN, SENIOR, SOPHOMORE and see MAJOR (USAGE)

**Junior**<sup>1</sup> (*written abbrev. Jr or Jnr*) *adj* [after *n*] *esp. AmE* the younger, esp. of two men in the same family who have exactly the same name: *Martin Luther King Junior*—compare SENIOR

**Junior**<sup>2</sup> *n* (a name for) one's son: *Bring Junior to the party.* | *Come here, Junior.*

**junior col-lege** /ˌɪː ˌɹ/ *n* [C;U] a college in the US or Canada where the students study for two years for an ASSOCIATE DEGREE—see also DEGREE (3)

**junior high school** /ˌɪː ˌɹ/ also **junior high, intermediate school** *n* (in the US) a school for children aged 12 and 13, GRADES 7 and 8, attended after ELEMENTARY SCHOOL and before HIGH SCHOOL—see also HIGH SCHOOL; compare MIDDLE SCHOOL; see also extra information on page 408

**junior school** /ˌɪː ˌɹ/ *n* [C;U] (in Britain) a school for children aged between 7 and 11—see also extra information on page 408

**ju-ni-per** /ˈdʒuːnɪpə/ *n* [C;U] a low bush with berries, whose prickly leaves remain green all year

**junk**<sup>1</sup> /dʒʌŋk/ *n* [U] **1** *informal* old or unwanted things, usu. of low quality or little use or value: *The attic was full of junk.* | *I bought this old table in a junk shop.* **2** *sl* a dangerous drug, esp. HEROIN—see also JUNKIE

**junk**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T] *informal* to get rid of as worthless: *We're going to have to junk these computers; they're obsolete.*

**junk**<sup>3</sup> *n* a flat-bottomed Chinese sailing ship with square sails

**junk bond** /ˈɪː ˌɹ/ *n* an official document giving the owner the right to certain property, which may or may not be profitable and has a high risk. Junk bonds are bought and sold on the STOCK EXCHANGE, esp. to pay for an intended TAKEOVER.

**Jun-kers** /ˈjʊŋkəz||-kərz/, **Hugo** (1859–1935) a German aircraft builder. His planes were used by the Germans in the Second World War.

**jun-ket** /ˈdʒʌŋkɪt/ *n* **1** [C] *informal, esp. AmE, often derog* a trip or journey, esp. one made by a government official and paid for with government money: *off on a junket* **2** [U] milk thickened by adding an acid, sweetened, and often given a particular taste

**jun-ket-ing** /ˈdʒʌŋkɪtɪŋ/ *n* *BrE informal* **1** [C;U] (a) happy social gathering with lots of eating and drinking **2** [U] ~going on a trip or journey, esp. paid for with government money

**junk food** /ˈɪː ˌɹ/ *n* [U] *informal* bad quality unhealthy food, esp. chemically treated food containing a lot of sugar, fat, and CARBOHYDRATES—compare HEALTH FOOD

**junk-ie, junky** /ˈdʒʌŋki/ *n* *sl* a person who habitually takes a drug such as HEROIN and is dependent on it: (fig.) *I'm a real sugar junkie.*

**junk mail** /ˈɪː ˌɹ/ *n* [U] *derog* mail, usu. for advertising, that is sent to people who have not asked for it, which some people find very annoying

**junk-yard** /ˈdʒʌŋkjɑːd||-jɑːrd/ *n* *AmE* **1** TIP<sup>4</sup> (1) **2** a place where old or unwanted items can be left, bought and sold

**Ju-no** /ˈdʒuːnəʊ/ in CLASSICAL MYTHOLOGY, the Roman goddess of women and marriage, wife of Jupiter (Greek name Hera)

**Ju-no-esque** /ˌdʒuːnəʊˈesk/ *adj* *sometimes humor* (of a tall woman) graceful and attractive

**jun-ta** /ˈdʒʌntə, ˈhʌntə||ˈhʌntə/ *n* [C+*sing./pl. v*] *often derog* a government, esp. a military one, that has come to power by force rather than through elections

**Ju-pi-ter** /ˈdʒuːpɪtə/ **1** the largest PLANET, fifth in order from the sun—see picture at SOLAR SYSTEM **2** in CLASSICAL MYTHOLOGY, the king and ruler of the Roman gods. He was god of the sky and the weather, and threw THUNDERBOLTS (imaginary weapons that cause thunder and lightning when they are thrown) when he was angry; Greek name Zeus

**Ju-ra** /ˈdʒuərə/ [*the*+P] a range of low mountains along the border between France and Switzerland

**ju-rid-i-cal** /dʒuəˈrɪdɪkəl/ *adj* *fml* of or related to the law or judges

**jur-is-dic-tion** /ˌdʒuərəʃɪˈdɪkʃən/ *n* [U] the right to use the power of an official body, esp. in order to make decisions on questions of law: *The prisoner refused to accept the jurisdiction of the court.* | *That area does not fall within the jurisdiction of the city health authority.* | *The UN court has no jurisdiction over non-members.*

**ju-ris-pru-dence** /ˌdʒuərəʃɪˈpruːdəns/ *n* [U] *fml* the science or study of law

**ju-rist** /ˈdʒuərəɪst/ *n* *fml* a person with a thorough knowledge of law; a legal EXPERT—compare JUROR



**ju-ror** /'dʒʊərə/ also **ju-ry-man** /'dʒʊərɪmən/ *masc.*  
**ju-ry-wom-an** /-wʊmən/ *fem.* — *n* a member of a jury —  
 compare JURIST

**ju-ry** /'dʒʊəri/ *n* [C+*sing./pl. v*] 1 a group of usu. 12 people  
 chosen to hear all the details of a case in a court of law  
 and give their decision on it: *The jury has/have returned*  
 (=given) *a verdict of guilty.* | *There were eight women on*  
*the jury.* | *the jury's still out* (=is still deciding) — see also  
 extra information on page 742 2 a group of people  
 chosen to judge a competition: *Now let's ask the jury to*  
*pick the winners of the song contest.* — see also GRAND JURY

**jury box** /'..../ *n* the place where the jury sit in a court —  
 see colour picture on page 751

**jury ser-vice** /'..../ *BrE* || **jury duty** *esp. AmE* — *n* [U] serv-  
 ice as a member of a jury, a duty which every adult is  
 supposed to do if called, except when there are reasons  
 why they cannot (by itself, work is not a good enough rea-  
 son): *I've been called up to do jury service.*

► **CULTURAL NOTE** In MAINLAND Britain anyone between the  
 ages of 18 and 65 who has lived in Britain for five years  
 since the age of 13 can be called on for jury service, ex-  
 cept people such as judges and priests, and anyone from  
 Northern Ireland. In the US, anyone who is able to vote can  
 be called upon to serve on a jury or grand jury. ◀

**just** /dʒəst; strong dʒəst/ *adv* 1 exactly: *She was sitting just*  
*here.* | *He arrived just as I was leaving.* | *That's just what*  
*I wanted.* (compare *That's not quite what I wanted.*) | *She*  
*looks just like her mother.* | *He makes just as much money*  
*as you do.* | *Just what do you mean by that remark?*  
 (shows annoyance) | *The accident was serious, but we*  
*can't yet tell just how serious.* | *That's just my luck!*  
 (=exactly the sort of bad luck I always have) | *That lad-*  
*der is just the thing* (=exactly what is needed) *for pick-*  
*ing apples.* 2 only; no more than: *Just a little more,*  
*please.* | *She's just a child.* | *Just a moment!* (=Wait a mo-  
 ment!) | *I don't want any dinner, just coffee.* | *Answer me,*  
*don't just stand there laughing!* | *Just listen to this!* (used  
 to make a command stronger) 3 a only a short time ago;  
 only now and not sooner: *You're too late; the train's just*  
*left.* | *I've just been reading a very interesting book.* | *I'd*  
*just got into bed when the phone rang.* | (*BrE*) *It's just gone*  
*8 o'clock.* | (*AmE*) *It just turned 8 o'clock.* — see USAGE  
 b starting to; on the point of: *I'm just coming.* | *He's just*  
*about to leave.* c (with words about time) only a little:  
*They left just before/just after Christmas.* | *It lasted just*  
*over two hours.* 4 (often with **only**) almost not; hardly:  
*The line is just over/just under three centimetres long.* |  
*The skirt comes just below my knees.* | *I can only just lift*  
*it.* (=it's almost too heavy) | *We got there just in time to*  
*save him.* | *He arrived on time, just.* 5 in a way that offers  
 no other choice or possibility; simply: *If you can't come*  
*tomorrow, we'll just have to postpone the meeting till next*  
*week.* | *I don't know where that book is — it seems to have*  
*just disappeared.* 6 *infml* completely; very: *That's just*  
*perfect.* | *Isn't that just beautiful!* 7 **just about** almost;  
 very nearly: *"Have you finished?" "Just about."* | *We were*  
*just about ready to leave when it started snowing.* 8 **just**  
**as soon** rather, prefer (to): *I'd just as soon do it tomor-*  
*row.* | *I'd just as soon have the yellow one.* 9 **just as well**:  
 a lucky or suitable: *It's just as well I brought my coat —*  
*it's freezing in here!* b (with **may, might**, etc.) with good  
 reason, considering the situation: *Since there's no more*  
*work to do, we might just as well go home.* 10 **just now**:  
 a a moment ago: *Paul telephoned just now.* b at this mo-  
 ment: *We're having dinner just now — can you come back*  
*later?* 11 *BrE* **just on** nearly; almost exactly: *just on 90*  
*years ago* | *it's just on ten past six* 12 **just so** also **quite**  
**so** — *BrE fml* yes; I agree 13 **just so** tidy; with every-  
 thing in its proper place: *I like my house to be just so.* 14  
**just yet** [only in negatives] quite yet: *I can't leave just yet.*  
 — see also **just the same** (SAME<sup>1</sup>)

► **USAGE** **Just**, **already**, and **yet** were at one time not  
 used with the simple past tense when speaking of time.  
 But expressions like: *The bell just rang.* | *I already*  
*saw him.* | *Did you eat yet?* are common in informal  
 American English. It is still considered more correct  
 in British English to say *The bell has just rung.* | *I've*  
*already seen him.* | *Have you eaten yet?* ◀

**just** /dʒəst/ *adj* 1 morally right and proper; fair: *a just*  
*man/decision* | *I don't think you were being just in punish-*  
*ing him but not her.* | *It's only just that we should get some*  
*compensation.* 2 **get one's just desserts** to be treated  
 as one deserves, esp. by being punished: *Don't worry,*

*he'll get his just desserts one of these days!* — ~ly *adv*:  
*justly deserved criticism* — ~ness *n* [U]

**jus-tice** /'dʒʌstɪs/ *n* 1 [U] the quality of being just; fairness:  
*They have at last received compensation, so justice has*  
*been done.* (=they have been treated fairly) | *He claimed —*  
*with justice — that he had not received his fair share.*  
 (=his claim was right) | *I wouldn't dispute the justice of*  
*his remarks.* — opposite **injustice**; see also POETIC JUSTICE  
 2 [U] the action or power of the law: *The police do all they*  
*can to bring criminals to justice.* (=catch them and bring  
 them to be tried in court) | *a court of justice*

► **CULTURAL NOTE** Justice is often represented as a  
 woman with her eyes covered, holding a sword in one hand  
 and a pair of scales in the other. There is a very famous  
 STATUE of this figure on the Old Bailey, the main court for  
 criminal cases in London. ◀

3 [C] (often *cap.*) a judge in a law court: *Mr Justice Smith*  
 (=a judge's official name) — see also CHIEF JUSTICE 4 **do**  
**justice to someone/something** also **do someone/some-**  
**thing justice** — to treat in a fair or proper way; get the  
 best results from: *She cooked a delicious dinner, but we*  
*couldn't really do it justice* (=eat enough of it) *because we'd*  
*eaten too much already.* | *She didn't do herself justice in*  
*the exam.* (=did not answer the questions as well as she  
 could have)

**Justice of the Peace** /,..../ *abbrev. JP* *n* a person who  
 judges less serious cases in small courts of law and, in  
 the US, has the power to perform the marriage ceremony  
 — see also MAGISTRATE

**jus-ti-fi-a-ble** /'dʒʌstɪfaɪəbəl/ *adj* that can be justified:  
*justifiable pride* — opposite **unjustifiable** — bly *adv*:  
*justifiably angry*

**justifiable hom-i-cide** /,...../ *n* [U] an act of killing  
 someone which is not against the law, e.g. when done by  
 a policeman or person carrying out an official  
 punishment

**jus-ti-fi-ca-tion** /,dʒʌstɪfɪ'keɪʃən/ *n* [U] a good or proper rea-  
 son for doing something: *I know he's upset, but that is no*  
*justification for his rude behaviour.* | *What can be said*  
*in justification of their actions?*

**jus-ti-fied** /'dʒʌstɪfaɪd/ *adj* 1 [(in)] having a good or proper  
 reason: *Is he justified in his criticisms?* | *I think I'm com-*  
*pletely justified in asking for her resignation.* 2 (of writ-  
 ten or printed matter) having a straight edge where all  
 the words line up: *The right margin on this page isn't*  
*justified.*

**jus-ti-fy** /'dʒʌstɪfaɪ/ *v* [T+obj/v-ing] 1 to give a good rea-  
 son for; explain satisfactorily: *How can you justify such*  
*an expense/justify spending so much money?* | *The govern-*  
*ment will find it difficult to justify this decision (to the pub-*  
*lic).* 2 to be a good reason for: *Nothing can justify such*  
*rudeness.*

**Just Sev-en-teen** /,...../ a British magazine for teenage  
 girls, containing photographic stories, articles on popu-  
 lar music, beauty, and other nonfiction matters, and a  
 problem page

**Just Wil-liam** /,...../ a SERIES of story books for children by  
 the English writer Richmal Crompton about William  
 Brown, an 11-year-old schoolboy who has many ad-  
 ventures

**jut** /dʒʌt/ *v* -tt- [I+adv/prep, esp. OUT] to stick up or out fur-  
 ther than the things around it; PROJECT: *The balcony juts*  
*out over the sea.* | *mountains jutting into the sky*

**jute** /dʒu:t/ *n* [U] a plant substance used for making rope  
 and rough cloth

**Jut-land** /'dʒʌtlənd/ a piece of land in northern Europe be-  
 longing partly to Denmark and partly to Germany. There  
 was a large naval battle there in the First World War.

**ju-ve-nile** /'dʒʊvənəl/ *adj* 1 [A no comp.] *esp.*  
*law* of or for young people, no longer babies but not yet  
 fully grown: *a juvenile court* 2 childish and foolish: *his*  
*juvenile sense of humour*

**juvenile** *n fml or tech* 1 a young person, no longer a baby  
 but not yet fully grown 2 an actor or actress who plays  
 such a person: *She was getting a bit too old to be the*  
*juvenile lead.*

**juvenile de-lin-quent** /,...../ *n* a child or young person  
 who shows no concern for other people or behaves in a  
 criminal way. Young people (below the age of 18) who  
 misbehave or are criminals are not put in prison but may



be sent to a special school to be educated or trained, to try to prevent them offending again. In court they are usu. tried as a **juvenile** rather than as an adult and the court uses different rules for them. —**juvenile delinquency** *n* : *an increase in juvenile delinquency*

**Ju·ven·tus** /ju:'ventəs/ an Italian football team, based in Turin

**jux·ta·pose** /,dʒʌkstə'pəʊz||'dʒʌkstəpəʊz/ *v* [T] *fml* to place side by side or close together: *We tried to juxtapose the sculptures to give the best effect.* —**position** /,dʒʌkstəpə'zɪʃən/ *n* [U]

**JVC** /,dʒeɪ vi: 'si:z/ a Japanese company making electronic products, such as VIDEOS, CD players, etc.



## K

**K**<sup>1</sup> /keɪ/ **K's, k's or Ks, ks** the 11th letter of the English alphabet

**K**<sup>2</sup> *written abbrev. for:* **1** 1024 BYTES of computer DATA: *a computer with a 128 K memory* —see also KILOBYTE **2** *informal* one thousand: *a £20K salary*

**K2** /,keɪ 'tuː/ also **Mount Godwin Austen**— the second highest mountain in the world after Mount Everest, on the border between Kashmir and China

**K-12** /,keɪ 'twelv/ *adj* **AmE** connected with KINDERGARTEN and/or GRADES<sup>1</sup> (2) 1–12 of the American education system, which includes all education paid for by the government: *a K-12 teacher* (=able to teach any level from kindergarten to 12th grade): *the K-12 curriculum*

**kaa-ba** /'kɑːbə/ a small stone building in the court of the Great Mosque at Mecca. It contains a special black stone which Muslims believe to be holy, and which they turn to when they pray.

**Ka-ba-la** /kæ'ba:lə/ *n* [U] the CABALA

**ka-bob** /kə'boʊb/ *n* **AmE** for KEBAB

**Ka-bul** /'kɑːbʊl/ the capital city of Afghanistan

**kad-dish** /'kædɪʃ/ || 'kɑː-/ *n* -**shim** /-dɪʃɪm/ [C;U] (*often cap.*) a prayer in praise of God, said in Jewish religious services and also by Jewish people when a member of the family has died: *saying Kaddish for their father*

**kaf-fir** /'kæfəɪ/ *n* **SAfrE** a black African. This word is used only by white people and is considered offensive to black people.

**Kaf-ka** /'kæfkə/ || 'kɑːf-/ **Franz** /frænts/ || frɑːnts/ (1883–1924) a Czech writer who wrote in German, known for NOVELS such as *The Trial*, and short stories including *The Metamorphosis* in which a man turns into a BEETLE (=a kind of insect). His stories are often SURREAL, and many deal with the struggle of people on their own against the state, large organizations, etc. — *~esque* /,kæfkə'esk/ *adj*

**kaf-tan** /'kæftæn/ || kæf'tæn/ *n* a CAFTAN

**kail** /keɪl/ *n* KALE

**Kai-ser** /'kaɪzəɪ/ *n* [(the)] (the title of) the king of Germany (between 1871 and 1918): *Kaiser Wilhelm was nicknamed "Kaiser Bill" by the Allied troops.*

**Kal-a-ha-ri Des-ert** /,kælə'hɑːri 'dezət/ || -zərt/, **Kalahari** /,kælə'hɑːri-/ [(the)] a large desert in southern Africa

**ka-lam** /kə'lɑːm/ *n* [U] a school of Islamic religious belief

**Ka-lash-ni-kov** /kə'læʃnɪkɒf/ || -kɔːf/ *n* a type of RIFLE<sup>1</sup> which can fire very rapidly, made in the former USSR. It has been sold to many countries in the Third World, and is often used by GUERRILLAS.

**kale, kail** /keɪl/ *n* [C;U] a dark green CABBAGE (=type of vegetable) with curled leaves

**ka-lei-do-scope** /kə'laidə'skəʊp/ *n* **1** a tube with mirrors and pieces of coloured glass fitted inside at one end which shows many-coloured patterns when turned **2** a pattern or scene that has many different bright colours or details, often changing: *the fairground was a kaleidoscope of colour* | (fig.) *the kaleidoscope of European history*

**ka-lei-do-scopic** /kə'laidə'skɒpɪk/ || -'skaː-/ *adj* (esp. of scenes and bright colours) changing quickly and often — *~ally* /kli/ *adv*

**kal-ends** /'kælendz/ *n* [(the)+P] the first day of ancient Roman months

**Ka-li** /'kɑːli/ in Hindu MYTHOLOGY, a goddess of death and destruction

**Ka-ma-su-tra, Kama Sutra** /,kɑːmə'sʊtrə/ [(the)] an ancient Hindu book about love and marriage, known in the West esp. for its many suggested positions for sexual acts

**kam-i-ka-ze**<sup>1</sup> /,kæmɪ'kɑːzi-/ *n* **1** one of a group of Japanese pilots (in the Second World War) who deliberately crashed on a military or naval TARGET, killing themselves as well as damaging the building, ship, etc. attacked. Kamikaze pilots were regarded as dying a hero's death in the service of their country. **2** an aircraft carrying explosives, used in such an attack

**kamikaze**<sup>2</sup> *adj* [A, no comp] **1** of or being a kamikaze: *a kamikaze pilot.* **2** seeming to take no care to protect one's own life: *a kamikaze driver*

**kam-ma** /'kɑːmə/ KARMA

**Kam-pa-la** /kæm'pɑːlə/ || kɑːm-/ the capital city of Uganda, on Lake Victoria

**Kam-pu-che-a** /,kæmpu'tʃiːə/ a republic in SE Asia, formerly **Cambodia**; capital Phnom Penh. It was bombed by the US during the Vietnam War, and is known esp. in association with the leader Pol Pot (1975–79), during whose time in power 3 million people are believed to have died of hunger or been killed by the communist Khmer Rouge government. —see also KHMER REPUBLIC, VIETNAM WAR —**Kampuchean** *n, adj*

**Kan-chen-jun-ga** /,kæntʃən'dʒʊŋgə/ || kɑːn-/ one of the world's highest mountains, on the border between India and Nepal

**kan-ga** /'kæŋgə/ *n* a woman's dress of African origin, consisting of a length of cloth wound round the body

**kan-ga-roo** /,kæŋgə'ruː-/ *n* -**roos** or -**roo** an Australian animal which jumps along on its large back legs and which carries its young in a POUCH (=a special pocket of flesh)

kangaroo



**kangaroo court** /,... 'i-/ *n* *derog* an unofficial court established by some members of a group to examine and usu. to punish other members of the same group: *The factory workers had set up/held a kangaroo court to try the men who'd refused to support the strike.*

**Kan-sas** /'kænzəs/ *written abbrev.* **KS** an American state in the Great Plains area of central US which produces large amounts of wheat —see colour map on pages 1374–5

**Kansas Cit-y** /,... 'i-/ *written abbrev.* **KC** **1** a city and port in W Missouri, USA **2** a city and port in NE Kansas, USA —see colour map on pages 1374–5

► **CULTURAL NOTE** When people in the US refer to Kansas City, they usu. mean Kansas City, Missouri. ◀

**Kap-i-tal** /kæpɪ'taɪl/, **Das** /dæs/ a book written by Karl Marx, in which he described his theories of economics —see Karl MARX

**Kant** /kænt/ || kɑːnt/, **Im-man-u-el** /ɪ'mænjuəl/ (1724–1804) a German PHILOSOPHER who believed that moral decisions must be based on reason, and wrote books arguing about the existence of God and about how we understand the world. His most important book is the *Critique of Pure Reason*. — *~ian* *adj*

**ka-o-lin** /'keɪəlɪn/ *n* [U] a fine white clay used for making cups, plates, etc., and also in medicine

**ka-pok** /'keɪpɒk/ || -paɪk/ *n* [U] a very light cotton-like material used for filling soft things such as CUSHIONS

**Ka-po-si's sar-com-a** /kə,pəʊzɪz sɑː'kəʊmə/ || -pəʊsɪz sɑːr-/ *n* [U] a type of CANCER which people with AIDS often suffer from

**ka-put** /kə'pʊt/ *adj* [F] *sl* broken; no longer able to be used: *The TV's kaput.*

**Ka-ra-chi** /kə'rɑːtʃi/ a city in S Pakistan, formerly the capital and still the main port and industrial centre

**Kar-a-jan** /'kærəjɑːn/ || 'kɑː-/ **Herbert von** (1908–89) an Austrian CONDUCTOR and director of the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra who made many musical recordings

**kar-a-o-ke** /,kæri'əʊki/ || kɑːrə-/ *n* **1** [C] a machine which plays recorded music that a person can sing to **2** [U] the practice of singing to recorded BACKING (3) music as a form of relaxation, usu. in a bar. Karaoke became very popular in British PUBS and American bars in the 1990s, having been introduced from Japan.

**kar-at** /'kærət/ *n* **AmE** a CARAT

**ka-ra-te** /kə'rɑːti/ *n* [U] a style of fighting and self-defence from the Far East, including hitting with the hands and kicking

K



**Ka-ri-ba Dam** /kəˈrɪbə ˈdæm/ [*the*] a DAM (=wall to keep back the water) across the Zambezi river in S central Africa, one of the world's largest dams

**Kar-loff** /ˈkɑːləf/ || ˈkɑːrlɔːf, -ɑːf/, **Bor-is** /ˈbɒrɪs/ || ˈbɔː-/ (1887–1969) a British actor known for his work in American HORROR FILMS, esp. as the MONSTER in *Frankenstein* in 1931

**kar-ma** /ˈkɑːmə/ || -ɑːr-/ also **kamma**—*n* [U] 1 (in Hinduism and Buddhism) the force produced by a person's actions in life which will influence them later or in future lives. Bad actions in this life lead to being born again as a poor or unfortunate person or as an animal, but good ones lead to rebirth as a better or more fortunate person. 2 *infml* luck resulting from one's actions; fate: *bad karma* —*mic adj*

**Kar-nak** /ˈkɑːnæk/ || ˈkɑːr-/ a village in Egypt where many TEMPLES of the PHARAOHS have been found, esp. the Great Temple of Amon

**Kash-mir** /ˌkæʃˈmɪər/ a state on the NW border of India, which was divided in 1949 when India became independent. Part of Kashmir now lies in India and part in Pakistan, and there is often fighting between Hindus and Muslims who live there. —**Kashmiri** *n, adj*

**Kath-e-rine of Ar-a-gon** /ˌkæθəˈrɪn əv ˈærəɡən/ || -ɡɑːn/ see CATHERINE OF ARAGON

**Kath-man-du, Katmandu** /ˌkætˈmænˈduː/ the capital city of Nepal, in the Himalayas

**Ka-un-da** /kɑːˈundə/, **Ken-neth** /ˈkenɪθ/ (1924– ) a Zambian politician who became the first president of Zambia when it became an independent country in 1964

**Ka-wa-sa-ki** /kəʊwəˈsɑːki/ *tdmk* a motorcycle made by the Japanese company Kawasaki

**kay-ak** /ˈkaɪæk/ *n* a light narrow covered boat, esp. as used by the Inuit or in sport —**aker** *n*

**Kaye** /keɪ/, **Dan-ny** /ˈdæni/ (1913–87) an American singer, actor, and COMEDIAN who appeared in many films, such as *The Secret Life of Walter Mitty* and *Hans Christian Andersen*

**Ka-zakh-stan** /ˌkæzækˈstɑːn/ a country in S central Asia, stretching from the Caspian Sea to China; capital Alma Ata; population 16,538,000 (1989)

**Ka-zan** /kəˈzɑːn/, **E-lia** /ˈiːljə/ (1909– ) an American theatre and film director known for his work with the Group Theatre and for directing important plays such as *The Skin of Our Teeth*, *A Streetcar Named Desire*, and *Death of a Salesman*

**ka-zoo** /kəˈzuː/ *n* a simple musical instrument played by holding it in the lips and making sounds through it

**KC** /ˌkeɪˈsɪz/ *abbrev. for* 1 KANSAS CITY 2 KENNEL CLUB 3 KING'S COUNSEL; (the title given, while a king is ruling, to) a British BARRISTER (=lawyer of high rank): *Sir Peter is a leading KC* | *Sir Peter Jones, KC* —compare QC 4 KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

**Kea-ting** /ˈkiːtɪŋ/, **Paul** (1944– ) an Australian political leader, who became PRIME MINISTER in 1991

**Kea-ton** /ˈkiːtɒn/, **Buster** (1896–1966) an American actor and COMEDIAN known for his many silent films made in the 1920s

**Keats** /kiːts/, **John** (1795–1821) an English poet, a leading figure in the Romantic movement, known for poems such as *To Autumn* and *Ode to a Nightingale*, which are often studied in schools in Britain

**ke-bab** /kɪˈbæb/ || kɪˈbɑːb/ *BrE* || **kabob** *AmE* —*n* a dish of small pieces of meat and usu. vegetables cooked on a stick, eaten as part of a Greek meal, or cooked on a BARBECUE

**kedg-e-ree** /ˈkedʒəriː/ *n* [U] a dish of rice, fish, and eggs mixed together

**Kee-gan** /ˈkiːɡən/, **Kev-in** /ˈkeɪvɪn/ (1951– ) an English footballer who played for Liverpool and other teams, as well as being captain of the England team

**keel** /kiːl/ *n* 1 a bar along the bottom of a boat from which the whole frame of the boat is built up —see picture at YACHT 2 **on an even keel** steady; without sudden changes: *We must try and get the company back on an even keel.*

**keel**² *v*

**keel over** *phr v* [I] to fall over sideways: *The ship keeled over in the storm.* | *My drink must have been drugged; when I tried to stand up, I keeled over.*

**Kee-ler** /ˈkiːlə/, **Chris-tine** /ˈkrɪstɪn/ (1942– ) an English model known for her part in the Profumo SCANDAL in 1963 —see PROFUMO SCANDAL

**keen**¹ /kiːn/ *adj esp. BrE* 1 [(on)] (of a person) having a strong, active interest in something; eager to do something: *a keen golfer/student of politics* | *She's keen on (=likes) football/growing roses.* | *He's very keen on the girl next door.* [F +to-v] *She's very keen to go.* | *Her father is keen for her to go to university.* 2 (of a competition or struggle) done with eagerness and activity on both sides; INTENSE: *There's been keen competition for the job.* 3 (of the mind, the feelings, the senses, etc.) good, strong, quick at understanding, etc.: *a keen mind* | *keen eyesight* 4 *lit sharp*: *a keen-edged sword* | (fig.) *a keen wind blowing from the east* 5 **as keen as mustard** *infml, esp. BrE* a extremely eager b very quick to understand; clever —*~ly adv* —*~ness n* [U]

**keen**² *n* (in Ireland) a loud sad song or cry of grief for the dead —**keen** *v* [I]

**keep**¹ /kiːp/ *v kept* /kept/ 1 [T] to have without needing to give back: *You can keep it; I don't need it.* | *"The price is £4.50, sir." "Here's £5; keep the change."* 2 [T] to continue to have for some time or for more time; avoid losing: *Will you keep my place in the queue for me (=prevent anyone else from taking it) while I go and make a phone call?* | *These old clothes are not worth keeping.* | *I won't smoke the cigar now; I'll keep it for later.* | *I'll keep his address in case I need it.* | *He kept the chairmanship of the committee, despite strong opposition.* | *I think we should keep an open mind (=not make a firm decision) on this until we know all the facts.* | *She just managed to keep her temper. (=not become angry)* | *The police struggled to keep order.* 3 [T] to cause to remain or continue in a particular state or situation: [+obj+adj/adv/prep] *This coat will keep you warm.* | *This will keep the children amused.* | *The illness kept her in hospital/kept her away from work for six weeks.* | *I keep (=store) the plates in this cupboard.* [+obj+v-ing] *I'm sorry to keep you waiting. (=to make you wait for a long time)* | *They use computers to keep the traffic running smoothly.* 4 [I;L] a to continue to be in a particular place or condition; remain; stay: [+adv/prep] *Try to keep out of trouble.* | *Keep back! It may explode.* | *Keep off the grass.* | *Keep left when you get to the end of the street.* [+adj] *It's difficult to keep warm here.* | *Try to keep calm — there's nothing to worry about.* b [+v-ing] to continue in an activity: *I wish you wouldn't keep (on) interrupting. (=wouldn't make continuous interruptions)* | *The children keep pestering me to take them to the zoo.* | *Keep going (=do not stop) till you reach the traffic lights.* 5 [T] to fulfil: *She kept her promise/word. (=did what she promised she would do)* | *My train was badly delayed, so I was unable to keep my appointment.* 6 [T (from)] to hold back; delay or prevent: *You're late; what kept you?* | *I know you're busy; I won't keep you (from your work).* | *Can't you keep your dog from coming into my garden?* —see also **keep the wolf from one's door** (WOLF) 7 [T] to know (a secret) without telling it: *She kept his secret for 15 years.* 8 [T] to make regular written records of or in: *Keep an account of what you spend.* | *Do you keep a diary?* 9 [T] to take care of and provide with food, money, etc.; support: *She kept her brother's children when he died.* 10 [T] to own and/or have the use of: *They keep chickens in their back garden.* | *She keeps (=owns and runs) a small shop.* | *You need to be very rich now to keep (=employ) servants.* 11 [I] (of food) to remain fresh and fit to eat: *This fish won't keep; we must eat it now.* | (fig.) *"I've got something to tell you!" "Won't it keep until (=can't you tell me about it) later?"* 12 [I+adv, esp. well] *old-fash infml* to be in the stated condition of health: *"How are you keeping?" "I'm keeping quite well, thank you."* 13 [T (from)] *fml* to guard; protect: *May God keep you (from harm)!* 14 [T] *old-fash* to behave suitably in relation to (an esp. religious day), meaning to perform all the usual customs, eat the usual foods etc., which have always been done/eaten on that day: *The Victorians certainly knew how to keep Christmas.* 15 **keep (oneself) to oneself** not to mix with or talk to other people very much 16 **keep one's shirt on** also **keep one's hair on** *BrE— infml* to remain calm; not to become upset or angry: *It was only a joke — keep your shirt on!* —see also **keep someone company** (COMPANY), **keep time** (TIME) **keep around** *phr v* [I] *infml* to keep something which may seem to have no value because it may be useful later: *I think I'll keep those old boots around in case we*



go climbing. | *She wanted to sell the car but I told her to keep it around.*

**keep** (sbdy.) **at** sthg. *phr v* [T no pass.] *infml* to (force to) continue working at: *The work is tiring, but he'll keep at it until he's finished.* | *The teacher kept us at it all afternoon.*

**keep** sthg. ↔ **back** *phr v* [T] **1** not to tell; keep silent about; **WITHHOLD**: *She told them most of the story, but kept back the bit about her uncle.* **2** to keep (usu. some of something) in one's possession; **RETAIN**: *His employers kept back some of his wages to pay for the damage he'd done.*

**keep** sbdy./sthg. ↔ **down** *phr v* [T] **1** to control; prevent from increasing: *Chemicals are used for keeping insects down.* | *The government is trying to keep down inflation.* | *Would you keep it down (=not make noise) in there. I'm on the telephone.* **2** to keep in a state like slavery; **OPPRESS** **3** to prevent (food or drink) from passing back from the stomach through the mouth: *I can't keep this horrible medicine down.*

**keep from** *phr v* [T+v-ing] **1** (keep sthg. from sbdy.) not to tell (someone) about (something); prevent from hearing about: *We thought it best to keep the bad news from him.* **2** [+v-ing] (keep from sthg.) to prevent oneself from (doing something): *I could hardly keep from laughing.* —see also **KEEP**<sup>1</sup> (6)

**keep** sbdy./sthg. ↔ **in** *phr v* [T] to force (a person or animal) to stay inside, esp. a child in school as a punishment: *The whole class was kept in for being so noisy.*

**keep in with** sbdy. *phr v* [T] to (try to) remain friendly with, esp. for one's own advantage

**keep off** *phr v* [I;T (=keep sthg. ↔ off)] to (cause to) not come or happen: *Take a beach umbrella to keep the sun off.* (=to stop it shining on you) | *If the rain keeps off, (=if it doesn't rain) we'll go out.*

**keep on** *phr v* **1** [L+v-ing] to continue doing something: *Prices keep on increasing.* —see also **KEEP**<sup>1</sup> (4b) **2** [T] (keep sbdy./sthg. ↔ on) to continue to have or employ: *I'll keep the flat on through the summer.* | *Will you be able to keep your secretary on?* **3** [I (about, at)] esp. **BrE infml derog** to talk continuously: *He keeps on about his operation.* [+to-v] *His wife kept on at him* (=continually tried to persuade him) *to change his job.*

**keep out** *phr v* [I;T (=keep sbdy./sthg. ↔ out)] to (cause to) stay away or not enter: *Can't you boys read? The notice says "Keep out!"* | *Warm clothing will keep out the cold.* | *I try to keep out of* (=not become concerned with) *their family quarrels.*

**keep to** *phr v* [T] **1** (keep to sthg.) to follow closely or limit oneself to: *Don't raise irrelevant matters, we must try and keep to the subject.* | *Let's keep to the original plan.* **2** (keep to sthg.) to remain in the stated position or place: *Traffic in Britain keeps to the left.* | *He kept to his room for the first few days of term.* **3** (keep sthg. to sbdy.) to cause (something) to remain known only to (oneself): *I'm resigning — but keep it to yourself!*

**keep up** *phr v* **1** [T] (keep sthg. ↔ up) to prevent from falling or dropping: *a belt to keep my trousers up* | (fig.) *She kept up her spirits* (=remained cheerful) *by singing.* **2** [I;T (=keep sthg. ↔ up)] to (cause to) continue: *Keep up the good work!* | *Keep it up; don't stop now!* | *Will the fine weather keep up?* **3** [I (with)] to remain level: *I had to run to keep up* (with the girls). | (fig.) *I can't keep up with these changes in fashion.* (=they change too quickly for me to know about each one) **4** [T] (keep sbdy. up) *infml* to prevent from going to bed: *I hope I'm not keeping you up.* **5** [T] (keep sthg. ↔ up) to look after and keep in good condition: *How do you keep up this large house?* —see also **UPKEEP** **6** **keep up appearances** to behave in an ordinary way when one is in difficulties, esp. when one has become poor, so as to persuade others that nothing is wrong **7** **keep up with the Joneses** *derog* to compete with one's neighbours socially, esp. by buying the same expensive new things that they buy: *"Oh, she only bought those new curtains to keep up with the Joneses."*

**keep with** *phr v* [T] **AmE infml, old fash** to agree with (a practice or set of values): *I've kept with the Catholic faith all my life.* | *I don't keep with drinking.*

**keep**<sup>2</sup> *n* **1** [U] (the cost of providing) necessary goods and services, esp. food and lodgings: *She made her do odd jobs around the house to earn her keep.* **2** [C] a large strong tower, usu. in the centre of a castle —see also **KEEPS**

**Keep A-mer-i-ca Beau-ti-ful** /, 1: 1... '.../ (the SLOGAN of) a

**CAMPAIGN**<sup>1</sup> (2) to encourage American people not to drop **LITTER** in the streets

**keep-a-way** /' 1: 1.../ *n* [U] a game played by children in the US in which the object is to throw a ball between two people without letting a third person in the middle catch it

**Keep Britain Ti-dy** /, 1: 1... '.../ (the SLOGAN of) a **CAMPAIGN**<sup>1</sup> (2) to encourage British people not to drop **LITTER** in the streets

**keep-er** /'ki:peɪ/ *n* (often in comb.) a person who guards, protects, or looks after: *The (zoo) keeper is feeding the animals.* | *a shopkeeper* | *a goalkeeper* —see also **Am I my brother's keeper?** (**BROTHER**)

**keep fit** /, 1: 1.../ *n* [U] activities intended to keep one in good physical condition: *I go to keep fit on Thursdays.* | *She's really into keep fit.* —**keep-fit** *adj* [A]: *keep-fit classes*

**keep-ing** /'ki:pɪŋ/ *n* [(in) U] **1** the state of being looked after or guarded: *She left her jewellery in her sister's keeping.* | *Don't worry: your jewels are in safe keeping* (=being guarded carefully) —see also **SAFEKEEPING** **2** **out of/in keeping (with something)** unsuitable/suitable (for something): *His silly jokes weren't really in keeping with the solemn occasion.*

**keeps** /ki:ps/ *n* **for keeps** *infml* for ever: *He came home for keeps.*

**keep-sake** /'ki:psɛk/ *n* something, usu. small, given (esp. in former times) to be kept in memory of the giver: *She gave him a lock of her hair as a keepsake.*

**keg** /keɡ/ *n* a small barrel, esp. for beer —see also **POWDER KEG**

**keg-ger** /'keɡə/ *n* **AmE** a big usu. outdoor party where beer is served from kegs

**Keil-lor** /'ki:lə/ **Garrison** (1942– ) an American humorous writer, known esp. for *Lake Wobegon Days* and *Leaving Home*

**Kei-tel** /'keɪtl/, **Wil-helm** /'vɪlhelm/ (1882–1946) a German army commander in the Second World War who signed Germany's **SURRENDER** in Berlin in 1945. He was hanged for war crimes.

**Kel-ler** /'kelə/, **Hel-en** /'helən/ (1880–1968) an American writer and social **REFORMER**, known esp. for the way she was taught to speak after becoming blind and **DEAF** as a baby

**Kel-logg Pact** /'kelɒɡ pækt/ -lə:ɡ-/ [*the*] an international agreement, also called the **Kellogg-Briand Pact**, to settle arguments peacefully, without war or weapons. It was suggested by Aristide Briand, the French Foreign Minister, to Frank B. Kellogg, the US Secretary of State, and signed in 1928.

**Kel-logg's** /'kelɒɡz/ -lə:ɡz/ *tdmk* an American company, the best-known maker of breakfast **CEREALS** (2), esp. **CORN-FLAKES**, in the US and Britain

**Kells** /kelz/, **The Book of** an illuminated (**ILLUMINATE** (3)) Gospel written in the eighth century, at a **MONASTERY** in the town of Kells in the Republic of Ireland

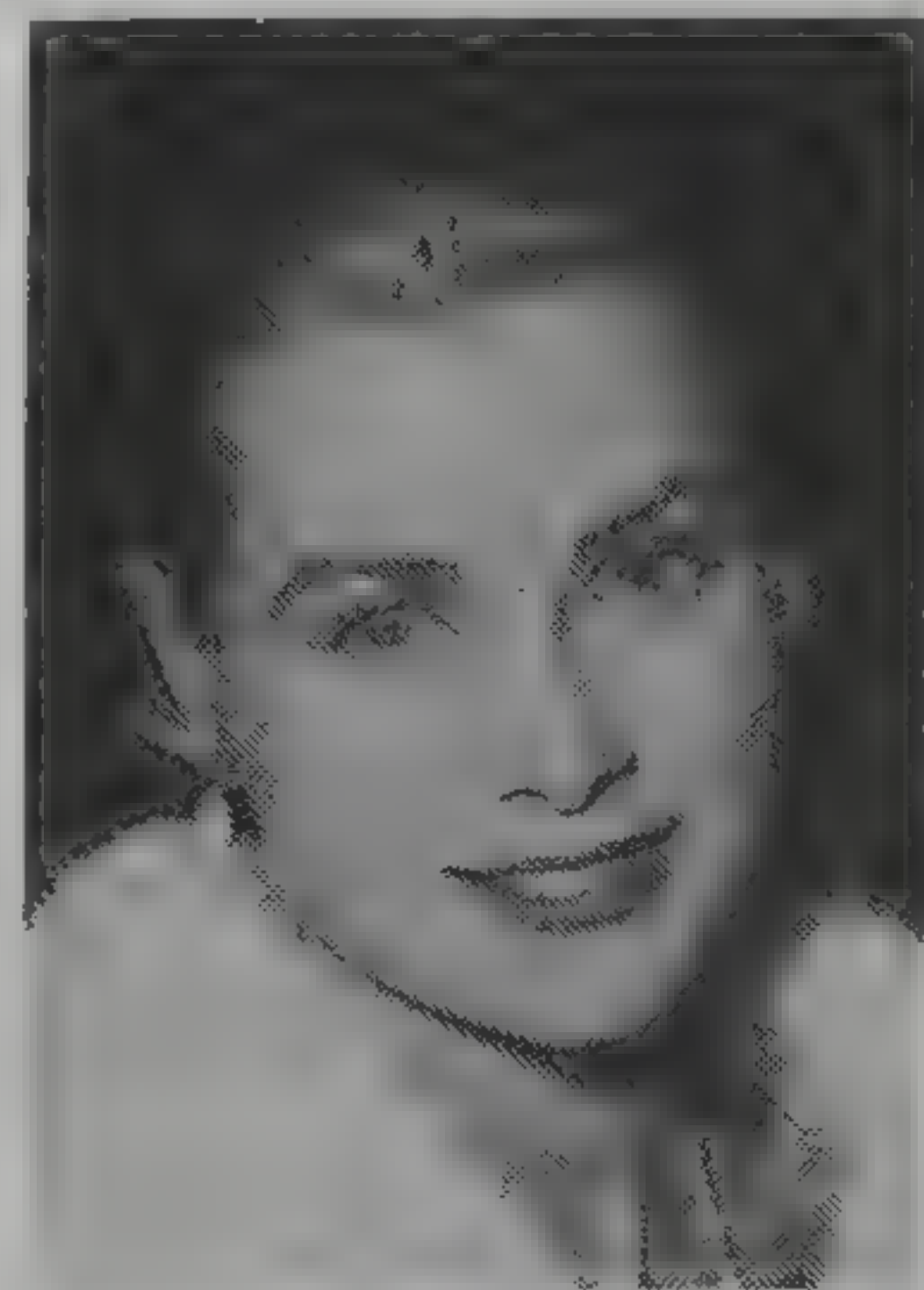
**Kel-ly**<sup>1</sup> /'keli/, **Gene** /dʒi:n/ (1912– ) an American film actor, dancer, and director who appeared in many musicals of the 1940s and 50s, including *Singin' in the Rain*, in which he sang and danced to a song with the same name —see picture on page 685

**Kelly**<sup>2</sup>, **Grace** (1928–82) an American film actress, star of *High Noon* and *High Society* in the 1950s, who became **Princess Grace of Monaco** when she married Prince Rainier

**Kelly**, **Ned** /ned/ (1854–80) an Australian armed robber who robbed banks and stole horses with his brother Daniel. In 1880 he was caught and hanged.

**kelp** /kelp/ *n* [U] a kind of large brown **SEAWEED**

**kel-pie** also **kelpy** /'kelpi/ *n* **ScotE** a water-spirit or devil often in the form of a horse, said to stay near water and enjoy drowning (**DROWN**) people



Grace Kelly



**kel·vin** /'kelvɪn/ *n* a unit of temperature —see TABLE 2

**Kem·pis** /'kempɪs/, **Thom·as à** /'tɒməs ə || 'tɑː-/ (1380–1471) a German Augustinian MONK and religious writer

**ken**<sup>1</sup> /ken/ *v* -nn- [I;T+obj (that)] *ScotE* to know

**ken**<sup>2</sup> *n* beyond one's ken sometimes humor outside the limits of one's knowledge

**ken·do** /'kendəʊ/ *n* [U] an ancient Japanese fighting art, in which two people fight with long BAMBOO sticks, which they use like swords

**Ken·nedy**<sup>1</sup> /'kenɪdi/ also **JFK**— the main international airport serving New York

**Kennedy**<sup>2</sup>, **Edward Moore** also called **Ted** /ted/ or **Teddy**— (1932– ) a US SENATOR of the Democratic party, brother of John, who wanted to represent his party in the 1980 elections but failed, mainly because of his association with a car crash at Chappaquiddick in 1969 when his female passenger was drowned. He is known today esp. for his LIBERAL political opinions. —see also CHAPPAQUIDDICK

**Kennedy**<sup>3</sup>, **Jackie** the wife of John Fitzgerald Kennedy — see picture on page 752

**President John F. Kennedy and Jackie Kennedy**

**Kennedy**<sup>4</sup>, **John Fitzgerald** also called **Jack Kennedy**, **JFK**— (1917–63) the 35th president of the US (1961–63), a Democrat and the first Roman Catholic to be elected, who was shot and killed in Dallas, Texas by Lee Harvey Oswald. He was one of the four sons of Joseph Patrick Kennedy, all of whom entered politics. John F Kennedy is remembered for the Bay of Pigs INVASION of Cuba in 1961, and his programme of social change which was carried out by Lyndon Johnson after Kennedy's death. Kennedy was very popular and people were very sad when he was killed, although since that time many facts have appeared showing that his character and behaviour were not as good as they seemed. Many people can still remember what they were doing when they heard the news of his death, and many theories (THEORY) have been suggested which say that Oswald was not his killer. —see picture on page 752



**Kennedy**<sup>5</sup>, **Ni·gel** /'naɪdʒəl/ (1956– ) a British musician who plays the VIOLIN. He is known for playing CLASSICAL and JAZZ music, and for his often informal way of dressing.

**Kennedy**<sup>6</sup>, **Rob·ert Fran·cis** /'rɒbət 'frɑːnsɪs || 'rɑːbət 'fræn-/ also **Bobby Kennedy** (1925–68) the brother of John F. Kennedy and also a political leader. He was killed in 1968 while trying to become president.

**Kennedy Cen·ter** /'... / [the] John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, the National Cultural Center of the US and the official MEMORIAL to President John F. Kennedy

**ken·nel**<sup>1</sup> /'kenl/ *n* 1 a small hut for a dog 2 *AmE* for KENNELS

**kennel**<sup>2</sup> *v* -ll- *BrE* || -l- *AmE* [T] to keep or put in a kennel or a kennels

**Kennel Club** /'... / [the] written abbrev **KC** an organization of dog breeders which keeps records of the PEDIGREES of all British pure-bred dogs, and decides what physical features each breed must have

**ken·nels** /'kenlz/ *n* kennels *BrE* a place where dogs a are looked after while their owners are away: *They left their dog in a kennels when they went on holiday.* b are bred (BREED<sup>1</sup> (2))

**Ken·sing·ton and Chel·sea** /,kenzɪŋtən ənd 'tʃelsi/ a BOROUGH in W London just N of the river Thames. People think of Kensington and Chelsea as a place where rich and fashionable people live, but it also contains poorer areas, esp. in the northern part.

**Kensington Gar·dens** /,... '.../ a park in London which was formerly the grounds of Kensington Palace. There is a STATUE of Peter Pan there.

**Kensington Pal·ace** /,... '.../ an official royal RESIDENCE in London, rebuilt by Christopher Wren for William III, where Queen Victoria was born. Parts of it are open to the public.

**Kent** /kent/ a COUNTY in SE England, known as the “Garden of England” because of its fruit and vegetable crops

**Kent, Bruce** (1929– ) an Englishman who was a Catholic priest, and then worked for the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament. He has written about peace, Christianity, and giving up NUCLEAR weapons.

**Kent, Clark** an imaginary character from COMIC STRIPS and films. Clark Kent is a very ordinary, uninteresting man who works for a small newspaper as a REPORTER, but secretly he is also Superman. —see also SUPERMAN

**Kent State** /,... '.../ an event in 1970 when soldiers from the National Guard killed four students who were part of a large PROTEST MARCH against the Vietnam War at Kent State University in Ohio

**Ken·tuck·y** /ken'tʌki || kən-/ written abbrev: **KY** a state in the American South, known as the Bluegrass State. It is known for country music and is an important producer of WHISKEY. —see colour map on pages 1374–5

**Kentucky Der·by** /,... '.../ [the] a famous race for three-year-old horses held each year on the first Saturday in May in Louisville, Kentucky

**Kentucky Fried Chick·en** /,... '.../ tdmk (one of a group of shops selling) fried chicken sold as FAST FOOD. The company is originally American, but is now also very widespread in Britain. The chicken is described by the company's advertisements as being “finger-lickin' good”.

**Ken·wood** /'kenwud/ a British firm which makes esp. food mixers and FOOD PROCESSORS

**Ken·ya** /'kenjə, 'kiː-/ a country in E Africa, on the EQUATOR, which became independent in 1963 and which is known for production of coffee and tea; capital Nairobi; population 24,872,000 (1989) —**Kenyan** *n, adj*

**Ken·yat·ta** /ken'jætə || -'jɑː-/ **Jo·mo** /'dʒəʊməʊ/ (about 1893–1978) a Kenyan politician, Prime Minister from 1963 and president from 1964 until his death. He was imprisoned for his association with the Mau Mau organization, and active in making Kenya independent from British rule.

**Ke·ogh Plan** /'kiːəʊ plæn/ in the US, a personal PENSION plan for self-employed people

**Kep·ler** /'keplər/, **Jo·hann** /'jəʊhæn || -hɑːn/ (1571–1630) a German ASTRONOMER (=person who studies the stars) on whose ideas Isaac Newton's work was based

**kept** /kept/ *past tense and past participle* of KEEP

**kept wom·an** /,... '.../ *n* old use or humor a woman who is supplied with (money and) a place to live by a man who visits her regularly for sex

**kerb** *BrE* || **curb** *AmE* /kɜːb || kɜːrb/ *n* a line of raised stones (kerbstones /'kɜːbstəʊnz || 'kɜːrb-) or CONCRETE along the edge of a PAVEMENT, separating the pavement from the road —see picture at HOUSE

**kerb craw·ler** /,... '.../ *BrE* *n* a man looking for PROSTITUTES, who follows women slowly in a car when they are walking along a street, usu. asking them to have sex with him —**kerb crawling** *n* [U]

**ker·chief** /'kɜːtʃ || 'kɜːr-/ *n* old use a square piece of cloth worn to cover the head, neck, etc.

**ker·fuf·fle** /kə'fʌfəl || kər-/ *n* [C;U (about)] *BrE* *infml* (unnecessary and) noisy excitement; FUSS: *There's been a tremendous kerfuffle about the plan to move the bus stop.*

**Ker·mit** /'kɜːmɪt || 'kɜːr-/ a PUPPET in the form of a FROG, who appears on British and American television in *The Muppet Show* and also in *Sesame Street*

**Kermit and Miss Piggy**





- Kern** /kɜːn||kɜːrn/, **Je-rome** /dʒəˈrəʊm/ (1885–1945) an American popular music COMPOSER and songwriter who wrote many songs and musical shows, e.g. *Showboat*, which included the famous song *Ol' Man River*
- ker-nel** /'kɜːnl||'kɜːr-/ *n* 1 [C] the part of a nut, large grain, fruit stone, or seed, inside its hard covering – see picture at NUT 2 [S+of] *lit or fml* the important part of something, often surrounded by unimportant or untrue matter: *I think there's a kernel of truth in these otherwise frivolous comments.*
- ker-o-sene, -sine** /'kerəsɪn/ *n* [U] *AmE, AustrE, & NZE* for PARAFFIN
- Ker-ou-ac** /'keruæk/, **Jack** (1923–69) an American writer who was a leading figure of the 1950s BEAT GENERATION. His books include *On the Road* and *Big Sur*.
- Ker-ry** /'keri/ a COUNTY on the SW coast of the Republic of Ireland, popular with tourists because of its beautiful mountains and lakes
- Kes-sel-ring** /'kesəlɪŋ/, **Albert** (1885–1960) a German military commander in the Second World War. He was found guilty of war crimes but later set free.
- kes-trel** /'kestrəl/ *n* a type of small FALCON
- ketch** /ketʃ/ *n* a small sailing-ship with two MASTS
- ketch-up** /'ketʃəp/ also **catsup** *esp. AmE* – *n* [U] a thick red liquid made from tomatoes (TOMATO), used for giving a pleasant taste to food. People sometimes make jokes about ketchup being used as artificial blood in plays, films, etc.
- ket-tle** /'ketl/ *n* 1 a metal or plastic container with a lid, a handle, and a SPOUT (=a narrow curved mouth for pouring), used mainly for heating water: *Please put the kettle on* (=start heating it) | *an electric kettle* – see picture at KITCHEN 2 a *pretty/fine/different kettle of fish* *infml* a situation that is difficult or awkward, or different from what is expected: *She's not nervous about speaking to a lot of people, but speaking to a TV camera is a different kettle of fish.*
- ket-tle-drum** /'ketldrʌm/ *n* a large metal musical drum with a round bottom, used in an ORCHESTRA – see TIMPANI
- Kev-in** /'kevn/ *BrE infml* a CHRISTIAN NAME for a man, used in Britain and the US. In Britain, it is often given as an example of a typical name of a young, WORKING-CLASS man with rough manners. –compare SHARON AND TRACEY
- Kew Gar-dens** /,kjuː 'gɑːdnz||-'gɑːr-/ a large park in the W of London, open to the public, where scientific study of plants is carried out and which contains plants from all over the world
- key** /kiː/ *n* 1 a specially shaped piece of metal for locking or unlocking a door, winding a clock, starting and stopping a car engine, etc.: *I've lost the ignition key/the car keys.* | *She put the key in the lock and turned it.* 2 [(to)] something that explains or helps one to understand: *There's a key underneath the diagram that explains the symbols.* | (fig.) *The discovery of the murder weapon provided the key to the mystery.* | (fig.) *The weather holds the key to our success or failure.* (=they depend on the weather) 3 any of the parts in a writing or printing machine or musical instrument that are pressed down to make it work: *the keys of a piano/a typewriter* – see picture at TYPEWRITER 4 a set of musical notes with a certain starting or base note: *a tune played in the key of C* | *I can't sing this – it's in too high a key for me.* | (fig.) *The police want to keep the operation in a fairly low key.* (=make it not very noticeable) – see also LOW-KEY
- key**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T (IN, INTO)] to put (information) into a machine such as a computer by using the KEYBOARD<sup>1</sup>: *She keyed in all the new data.* – see also KEYED UP
- key** sthg. to sthg. *phr v* [T often *pass.*] to make suitable to: *The course is keyed to the needs of school leavers.*
- key**<sup>3</sup> *adj* very important; on which others depend: *a key position in the firm* | *key men/industries* | *a key issue in the forthcoming election* | *a key witness*
- key**<sup>4</sup> *n* a small island, esp. one near the coast of Florida: *Key West* | *Key Largo* | *the Florida Keys*
- Key, Francis Scott** (1779–1843) the American writer of the song *The Star-Spangled Banner*, the national song of the US
- key-board**<sup>1</sup> /'kiːbɔːd||-bɔːrd/ *n* 1 a row or several rows of keys on a musical instrument or a machine: *the keyboard*
- of a piano/a typewriter/a computer* – see picture at COMPUTER 2 also **keyboards** *pl* a musical instrument with a keyboard: *Sally plays keyboards in a rock group.*
- keyboard**<sup>2</sup> *v* [I;T] 1 to work the keyboard of (esp. a computer) 2 also **key** – to provide a machine with (information) by working a keyboard – ~ *er n*
- keyed up** /,iː 'iː/ *adj* [F (ABOUT)] anxiously excited or nervous: *He's very keyed up about the exam.*
- key-hole** /'kiːhəʊl/ *n* a hole for a key, esp. in a door lock. People sometimes look through or listen at the keyhole to find out about something private that is taking place on the other side of a closed door.
- key mon-ey** /'iː ,iː/ *BrE* || **security deposit** *AmE* – *n* [U] money, additional to the rent and usual charges, sometimes demanded before a person is allowed to begin living in a flat or house
- Keynes** /keɪnz/, **John May-nard** /dʒɒn 'meɪnɑːd||dʒɑːn 'meɪnɑːrd/ (1883–1946) a British ECONOMIST whose ideas on financial matters influenced much of the thought on ECONOMICS during the 20th century. His **Keynesian** ideas advised government action to increase demand and therefore employment.
- key-note** /'kiːnəʊt/ *n* 1 [(of)] the main point, which establishes a general situation: *The keynote of the discussion was concern for the jobless.* | *We'd invited a world-famous expert to give the keynote speech at the conference.* 2 the particular note on which a musical key is based
- key-pad** /'kiːpæd/ *n* 1 a small KEYBOARD which can be held in the hand, such as the ones used for REMOTE CONTROL of a television 2 part of the KEYBOARD of a computer, usu. on the right-hand side, that has keys (usu. of numbers) arranged separately from the letter keys
- key-punch** /'kiːpʌnts/ *n* *AmE* for CARDPUNCH – ~ *er n*
- key ring** /'iː -/ *n* a ring or ring-shaped object on which keys are kept and carried, often with a FOB<sup>2</sup>
- key sig-na-ture** /'iː ,sɪ- / *n* *tech* a mark in a system of musical writing that shows the key of a piece of music
- key-stone** /'kiːstəʊn/ *n* [usu. *sing.*] 1 the middle stone in the top of an arch, which keeps the other stones in position 2 [(of)] an idea, belief, etc., on which everything else depends: *Social justice is the keystone of their political programme.*
- Keystone Kops** /,iː 'iː/ [the + P] a group of silly policemen in a set of British COMEDY films made in about 1920
- key-stroke** /'kiːstrəʊk/ *n* the action of pressing down and letting up a key on a TYPEWRITER or computer KEYBOARD<sup>1</sup>: *I'll show you a way to perform that function using fewer keystrokes.*
- Key West** /,iː 'iː/ an island off the coast of Florida, one of the Florida Keys, which is the point furthest south in the US. It is popular with tourists because of its fine weather, interesting buildings, and the unusual people who live there.
- kg** *written abbrev. for:* KILOGRAM(s)
- KGB** /,keɪ dʒɪː 'biː/ *n* [the+*sing./pl.v*] the secret police of the former USSR, responsible for state SECURITY in the Soviet Union and ESPIONAGE abroad
- kha-ki** /'kɑːki||'kæki, 'kɑːki/ *n* [U] 1 a yellow-brown colour 2 cloth of this colour, esp. as worn by soldiers – **khaki** *adj*
- kha-kis** /'kɑːkɪz||'kækɪz, 'kɑː-/ *n* [P] *AmE* trousers made of khaki – see USAGE NOTE at PAIR
- kha-lif** /'keɪlɪf/ *n* a CALIPH
- kha-li-fate** /'keɪlɪfeɪt/ *n* a CALIPHATE
- khan** /kɑːn/ *n* (often *cap.*) (a title of) a ruler or official in Asia
- Khar-toum** /kɑː'tuːm||kɑːr-/ the capital city of Sudan, known to many British people as the place where General Gordon was killed during a long battle in the 1880s
- Khmer Re-pub-lic** /,kmeə rɪ'pʌblɪk, kə,meə- || kə,meər-/ [the] a former name (1970–75) of Kampuchea
- Khmer Rouge** /,kmeə 'ruːʒ, kə,meə-||kə,meər-/ *n* [the+*sing./pl.v*] a military body which took over the government of Kampuchea in 1975 under the leader Pol Pot. Around 3 million Kampuchians are believed to have been killed under this government's rule. – see also KILLING FIELDS, POL POT



**Kho·mei·ni** /kə'meɪni||kəu-/  
**Ayatollah** (1900–89) a political and religious leader of Iran from 1919 until his death who demanded the exact following of Islamic laws.

**Khrush·chev** /'krʊʃtʃɒf||  
 'krʌʃtʃɛf, -tʃɔ:f/, **Ni·ki·ta**  
 /nɪ'ki:tə/ (1894–1971) a political leader of the former USSR whose ideas replaced those of Stalin and led to the REVOLTS in Poland and Hungary in 1956 —see also **BAY OF PIGS**

**Khy·ber Pass** /,kaɪbə 'pɑ:s||  
 -bə 'pæs/ [*the*] a steep mountain pass joining Pakistan and Afghanistan, for centuries the main road to India from the west

**kHz** written abbrev. for: **KILOHERTZ**

**kib·butz** /kɪ'bʊts/ *n* -**zim** /sɪm/ or -**zes** a farm or settlement in Israel where many people live and work together. At one time, many young foreign people, esp. students, worked on kibbutzim for short periods.

**ki·bosh** /'kaɪbɒʃ||-bə:ʃ/ *n* **BrE** put the kibosh on old-fash *sl* to put an end to (esp. a hope, plan, etc.); ruin

**kick**<sup>1</sup> /kɪk/ *v* 1 [T] to strike with the foot: *The boy kicked the ball.* | *The horse kicked me.* | (fig.) *I could kick myself for making such a stupid mistake.* | *He kicked the chair over.* | *He kicked open the gate.* | *She kicked sand in my face.* | *She kicked a hole in the door.* —compare **HIT**<sup>1</sup> (1) 2 [T] to SCORE by kicking: *He kicked two penalty goals in the rugby match.* 3 [I] to move the legs violently as if kicking something: *Babies kick to exercise their legs.* 4 [I] (of a gun) to move backwards violently when fired 5 [T] *sl* to stop or give up (a harmful activity): *I'm trying to kick the habit.* 6 **kick against the pricks** **BrE** *lit* or *fml* to complain uselessly about something that cannot be changed 7 **kick ass** **AmE** *taboo* *sl* to move very quickly: *That new car he's got really kicks ass.* 8 **kick over the traces** **BrE** to free oneself from control; unexpectedly start to act wildly 9 **kick someone in the teeth** *infml* to discourage or disappoint someone very much, esp. when they need support or hope 10 **kick someone upstairs** *infml* to move someone to a job which appears more important than their present one, but which really has less power 11 **kick the bucket** *humor* *sl* to die —see also **kick one's heels** (**HEEL**<sup>1</sup>) —*~er n*

**kick about/around** *phr v* *infml* 1 [I;T (=kick about sthg.)] to lie unnoticed or unused in (a place): *That old typewriter has been kicking about the house for years.* | "Where's my cap?" "Oh, it's kicking around somewhere." 2 [T] (kick sbdy./sthg. about/around) *infml* to treat roughly or give unnecessary orders to: "... You won't have me to kick around any more." (Richard Nixon) 3 [T] (kick sthg. ↔ about/around) to talk about and compare informally: *Let's kick around a few ideas and see if we can come up with a solution.* 4 [T] (kick about sthg.) to travel in (a place) with no fixed plan: *He's been kicking about Africa for years.*

**kick against/at sthg.** *phr v* [T] to be strongly unwilling to obey or act in accordance with: *At school he always kicked against authority.*

**kick in** *phr v* **AmE** 1 [I;T kick in sthg.) **CONTRIBUTE**: *We're going to buy Bob a present — do you want to kick in (something)?* 2 [I] (to begin) to have an influence: *I took a painkiller an hour ago, I wish it would kick in.*

**kick off** *phr v* [I] to start a game of football: *What time do we kick off?* | (fig.) *The lecturer kicked off (=began his talk) with a few jokes.* —see also **KICKOFF**

**kick sbdy. ↔ out** *phr v* [T (of)] *infml* to remove or dismiss, esp. violently: *He was kicked out of college for cheating in exams.*

**kick up sthg.** *phr v* [T] *infml* to cause or make (trouble): *He kicked up a fuss/a row about the broken furniture.* (=complained forcefully about it)

**kick**<sup>2</sup> *n* 1 [C] an act of kicking: *Give the door a good kick to open it.* | *I knocked him down and gave him a smart kick in the ribs for good measure.* | *He's so lazy; he could do with a good kick up the rear.* 2 [C] *sl* a strong feeling

Ayatollah Khomeini



of excitement, pleasure, etc.: *He gets some kind of a kick out of making her suffer.* | *She drives fast (just) for kicks.* 3 [S;U] *infml* strength; power to produce an effect: *This home-made whisky has a real kick to it.* 4 [C] an extremely strong new interest: *She's on a health food kick at the moment.*

**kick-back** /'kɪkbæk/ *n* [C;U] *sl* money paid, usu. secretly or dishonestly, to someone in return for doing something: *For arranging the contract he got a kickback of \$20,000.*

**kick-ball** /'kɪkbɔ:l/ *n* [U] an American game with rules like BASEBALL, except that the ball is kicked rather than hit, and it may be thrown at a player to get him out

**kick-boxing** /'kɪkbɒksɪŋ||-bɑ:k-/ *n* [U] an Oriental sport which allows punching (PUNCH<sup>1</sup> (1)), and kicking with bare feet —**kickboxer** *n*

**kick-off** /'kɪk-ɒf||-ɔ:f/ *n* the first kick of a game of football: *The kickoff is at three o'clock today.* —see also **KICK OFF**

**kick-stand** /'kɪkstænd/ *n* a metal rod fixed to a bicycle or MOTORCYCLE that can be folded down to make it able to stand by itself

**kick-start** /'kɪk-ɔ:/ also **kick-start-er** /'kɪk-ɔ:-ə-/ *n* a LEVER which is kicked down to start the engine of a motorcycle —**kick-start** *v* [T] : (fig.) *The scheme to encourage more women into the workforce was kick-started last autumn with the launch of Opportunity 2000.*

**kid**<sup>1</sup> /kɪd/ *n* 1 [C] *infml* a child: *I'm taking the kids (=my children) to the zoo this afternoon.* 2 [C] *infml* a young person: *college kids* | *They're just kids; it's immoral to put them in uniform and send them out to be killed.* —see **CHILD** (USAGE 2) 3 [C;U] (leather made from the skin of) a young goat

**kid**<sup>2</sup> *v* -dd- *infml* 1 [I; T] to deceive (someone), esp. playfully; joke: *He's not really hurt: he's only kidding.* | *You're kidding!* | *You must be kidding (me)! (=I don't believe you!)* | (humor) *I kid you not.* (=I'm telling you the truth) | *Yes, it's true; no kidding!* 2 [T] to make (oneself) believe something untrue or unlikely: [+obj+ (that)] *He's been trying to kid himself that he's got a chance of winning.* —*~der n*

**kid**<sup>3</sup> *adj* [A] *infml*, esp. **AmE** (of a brother or sister) younger: *his kid sister*

**kid·die**, -dy /'kɪdi/ *n, adj* *infml* (for) a small child: *I carry my little boy in a kiddy seat on the back of my bike.*

**kid·dush** /'kɪdʃ/ *n* [U] a ceremonial blessing used in a Jewish home or SYNAGOGUE before eating bread or drinking wine on a holy day: *to say kiddush*

**kid gloves** /,kɪd- / *n* [P] gentle methods of dealing with people (as if with gloves made of very soft leather): *He's pretty angry; you'll have to handle him with kid gloves.* —**kid-glove** /'kɪd- / *adj* [A] : *kid-glove treatment*

**kid·nap**<sup>1</sup> /'kɪdnæp/ *v* -pp- **BrE** || -p- or -pp- **AmE** [T] to take (someone) away illegally and usu. by force, in order to demand esp. money for their safe return —*~per n*: *The boy's kidnappers demanded an enormous ransom.*

**kidnap**<sup>2</sup> *n* an act of kidnapping: *took part in a kidnap (attempt)*

**Kid·napped** /'kɪdnæpt/ an adventure story for children by Robert Louis Stevenson about the kidnapping of a boy, David, who has seen a man being killed. He has to travel across the Highlands of Scotland to escape.

**kid·ney** /'kɪdni/ *n* 1 [C] either of the pair of bodily organs in the lower back area, which separate waste liquid from the blood 2 [C;U] such an organ or organs from an animal, used as food: *steak and kidney pie*

**kidney bean** /'kɪd- / *n* a dark red bean that is shaped like a kidney and eaten as a vegetable

**kidney ma·chine** /'kɪd- / *n* a large machine, esp. in a hospital, that can do the work of human kidneys, for people whose own kidneys do not work or have been removed

**kid's stuff** /'kɪd- / **BrE** || **kid stuff** **AmE** —*n* [U] *infml* something that is suitable only for children because it is too simple, UNSOPHISTICATED, or boring: *The exam was kid stuff compared to the one we had last year.*

**Kiel** /ki:l/ an industrial centre, port, and naval base in Germany, on an arm of the Baltic Sea

**Kier·ke·gaard** /'kɪəkəɡɑ:d||'kɪərəkəɡɑ:rd/, **Sö·ren Aa·bye** /'sɜ:rən 'ɑ:bi/ (1813–55) a Danish thinker and writer, the FOUNDER OF EXISTENTIALISM



**Ki-ev** /'ki:ef, -ev/ the capital city of the Ukraine, an industrial centre and important port —see also CHICKEN KIEV

**kike** /kaik/ *n* *AmE taboo sl* an offensive word for a Jewish person

**Ki-ku-yu** /kɪ'ku:ju:/ *n* [C;U] (a member of) one of the peoples of N Kenya —see also MAU MAU

**Kil-dare** /kɪl'deə/ a COUNTY in the E of the Republic of Ireland

**Kil-i-man-ja-ro** /,kɪlɪmən'dʒɑ:rəʊ/ also **Mount Kilimanjaro**— a mountain in Tanzania. It has two PEAKS; the taller is the highest mountain in Africa.

**Kil-ken-ny** /kɪl'keni/ a COUNTY in the SE of the Republic of Ireland

**kill** /kɪl/ *v* 1 [I;T] to cause death or cause to die: *Handle these toxic substances carefully; they can kill.* | *He was killed in the war/in a car crash.* | *The cold weather killed all the plants.* | (fig.) *My feet are killing me!* (=hurting very much) | (fig.) *The boss will kill me* (=be very angry at me) *if she finds out about this!* | *This guy really kills me!* (= makes me laugh a lot) 2 [T] to cause to stop, finish, or fail: *That mistake has killed his chances.* | *His tactless remark killed the conversation.* | *The newspaper editor killed the story (before it was printed).* | *He drinks to kill the pain.* | *Kill the lights.* (=turn them off) 3 [T] to destroy, weaken, or spoil the effect of (something) by comparison with it or closeness to it: *That red sofa kills (the effect of) the grey wall.* 4 **kill someone with kindness** to treat someone too kindly, so that they feel uncomfortable 5 **kill the fatted calf** *esp. humor or pomp* to welcome joyfully and with generous entertainment someone who has returned after a long absence (from the welcoming party given on the return of the PRODIGAL SON in the Bible) 6 **kill time** to make time pass quickly by finding something to do: *We killed time by playing cards.* 7 **kill two birds with one stone** to get two good results from one action: *Since Wendy lives near my mother, I'll call in on her as well and kill two birds with one stone.* —see also **dressed to kill** (DRESS<sup>1</sup> (9))

▷ **USAGE Kill** is a general word meaning to cause (anything) to die: *My uncle was killed in a plane crash.* | *The cold weather killed our tomato plants.* **Murder** means to kill a person on purpose: *She was sent to prison for murdering her husband.* **Slaughter** and **butcher** mean to kill animals for food, but both words are also used to describe cruel or unnecessary killing of humans: *Our army was butchered by the enemy's much larger forces.* | *Thousands of people are needlessly slaughtered in road accidents.* To **assassinate** means to kill an important political figure: *an attempt to assassinate the president.* To **massacre** means to kill large numbers of (defenceless) people: *The army entered the city and massacred all the women and children.* ◁

**kill** sthg. **off** *phr v* [T] to kill (a lot of living things), usu. one at a time: *The trees were killed off by the severe winter.*

**kill**<sup>2</sup> *n* 1 [S] a bird or animal killed in hunting: *The lion was eating his kill.* —see also ROAD KILL 2 [the] the act or moment of killing esp. hunted birds or animals: (fig.) *All his business rivals came to the bankruptcy proceedings to be in at/on the kill.*

**kill-er** /'kɪlə/ *n* a person, animal, or thing that kills: *This disease is a killer.* | *killer sharks* | *There's a killer at large.*

**killer in-stinct** /'..../ *n* the natural ability or tendency to try to harm or kill another animal: (fig.) *Jim's really showing his killer instinct now that his company is in trouble.*

**killer whale** /'..../ *n* a small fierce meat-eating WHALE

**kill-ing**<sup>1</sup> /'kɪlɪŋ/ *n* 1 a murder: *a series of gangland killings* 2 **make a killing** to make a lot of money suddenly, esp. in business

**killing**<sup>2</sup> *adj infml* extremely tiring: *This work is really killing.* —~*ly adv*

**Killing Fields** /'..../, **The** a film made in 1984 about the killing of Cambodians by the Khmer Rouge during the Pol Pot rule (1975–79)

**kill-joy** /'kɪldʒɔɪ/ *n* *derog* a person who intentionally spoils the pleasure of other people

**kiln** /kɪln/ *n* a box-shaped heating apparatus for baking pots or bricks, or for drying wood: *a brick kiln* | *kiln-dried oak*

**Kil-ner jar** /'kɪlnə dʒɑ:ʔ||-nər-/ *n* *BrE tdmk* a glass bottle with

a lid that can be sealed (SEAL<sup>3</sup> (3)), used for preserving fruit or vegetables —compare MASON JAR

**ki-lo** /'ki:ləʊ/ *n* *kilos infml* a KILOGRAM: *I weigh 52 kilos.* | *A kilo of apples, please.*

**kilo-** see WORD FORMATION

**kil-o-byte** /'kɪləbaɪt/ *n* also **K** 1000 or 1024 BYTES of computer information

**kil-o-cal-o-rie** /'kɪləkæləri/ *n* a CALORIE (1)

**kil-o-gram**, **-gramme** /'kɪləgræm/ (*written abbrev. kg*) *n* a unit of weight equal to 2.20 pounds: *The sack weighed 30 kilograms.* —see TABLE 2

**kil-o-hertz** /'kɪləhɜ:ts||-ɜ:r-/ also **kil-o-cy-cle** /'kɪləsaɪkəl/- *n* **-hertz** 1000 HERTZ

**kil-o-joule** /'kɪlədʒu:l||-dʒu:l, -dʒəʊl/ *n* a unit of work or ENERGY equal to 1000 JOULES

**kil-o-li-tre** *BrE* || **-ter** *AmE* /'kɪləlɪtə/ *n* a unit of amount —see TABLE 2

**kil-o-me-tre** *BrE* || **-ter** *AmE* /'kɪləmɪtə, kɪ'lɒmɪtə|| kɪ'lɑ:mɪtə/ (*written abbrev. km*) *n* a unit for measuring length: *The bridge is almost 2 kilometres long.* —see TABLE 2

**kil-o-watt** /'kɪləwɒt||-wɑ:t/ *n* 1000 WATTS

**kilowatt hour** /,ɪ... '.../ *written abbrev. kwh* *n* the amount of ENERGY produced by a kilowatt over a period of an hour. It is the unit usu. used by electricity companies for setting their prices.

**Kil-roy** /'kɪlrɔɪ/ an unknown man, the subject of the sentence "Kilroy was here", which from the Second World War on has been found written on walls as GRAFFITI; its origin is unknown

**kilt** /kɪlt/ *n* a skirt with many pressed folds at the back and sides, and usu. of a TARTAN pattern, worn esp. by Scotsmen. People often make jokes about the fact that men are believed to wear nothing under their kilt. —~*ed adj* [A]: *kilted Highlanders*

**kil-ter** /'kɪltə/ *n* **out of kilter/off kilter** not working properly or in good condition

**ki-mo-no** /kɪ'məʊnəʊ/ *n* **-nos** 1 a long traditional Japanese garment made of thin silk or other material 2 *esp. AmE* a loose DRESSING GOWN, worn esp. by women

**kin** /kɪn/ *n* [P] *BrE old use or fml; AmE infml* 1 also **kin-folk** the members of one's family; one's relatives 2 **next of kin** a person's closest relative or relatives: *His next of kin were told of his death.* —compare KINDRED; see also KITH AND KIN

**Kin-car-dine-shire** /kɪn'kɑ:dɪnʃə||-ɑ:r-/ a former COUNTY in E Scotland, now part of Grampian REGION

**kind**<sup>1</sup> /kaɪnd/ *n* 1 [C (of)+sing./pl. v] a group whose members share certain qualities; type; sort: *all kinds of people* | *the only one of its kind* | *It's a kind of reddish-brown colour.* (=is rather reddish-brown) | *There's red wine or white; which kind would you prefer?* | *The film was OK, if you like that kind of thing.* | *Haven't you got any other kind?* | *Those kind of watches are stronger than the others.* —see USAGE 1 2 [U] the qualities that make something what it is, and different from others; nature: *You can't compare them — there is a fundamental difference in kind.* | "You said he was old." "I never said anything of the kind!" (=I said nothing at all like that) 3 **a kind of** an unclear or unusual sort of: *He had a kind of feeling (AmE)/a kind of a feeling (BrE) that she would phone him.* 4 **in kind**: a (of payment) using goods or natural products rather than money b with the same treatment: *I paid him back in kind for cheating me.* (=I cheated him) 5 **kind of infml** in a certain way; rather: *I'm feeling kind of tired.* | *She kind of hoped to be invited.* —see USAGE 2 6 **of a kind**: a of the same kind: *Father and son are two of a kind; they're both very generous.* b of a not very good kind: *It was advice of a kind, but it wasn't very helpful.*

▷ **USAGE 1** Sentences like: *Those kind/sort of questions are very difficult* are common in speech but are thought by teachers to be incorrect. In writing it is better to use this form: *That kind/sort of question is very difficult*, or: *Questions of that kind/sort are very difficult.* 2 **Kind of** and **sort of**. In informal conversation these expressions can be used to show that you are not sure or have doubts about something: "Do you like red wine?" "Yes, kind of/sort of." | "Did he help you?" "Well, kind of." (=not as much as I hoped). In very informal speech **kind of** and **sort of** are sometimes used without any



particular meaning: *He sort of came up to me and pushed me. So I kind of hit him in the face.* This is not considered to be good English. <

**kind<sup>2</sup> adj** [(to)] (that shows one is) caring about the happiness or feelings of others: *a kind person/action/thought* | *She's very kind to animals.* | *It was very kind of you to visit me when I was ill.* | *They've been very kind about letting our children play in their garden.* | (fml) *Would you be kind enough to do it for me?* | (fml) *Would you be so kind as to do it?* —opposite **unkind**; see also **KINDLY**<sup>1</sup>, **KINDNESS**

**kin-der-gar-ten** /'kɪndəgɑːtn/ -dɜːgɑːrtən/ *n* [C;U] a school or class for young children, usu. age five. In the US kindergarten is usu. the beginning of formal, state-controlled education. Most GRADE SCHOOLS have kindergarten classes, where children attend for half a day. —compare **NURSERY SCHOOL**; see also extra information on page 408

**kind-heart-ed** /,kɪndˈhɑːtəd/ *adj* having or showing a kind nature: *a kind-hearted person/action* — *~ly adv* — *~ness n* [U]

**Kind Hearts and Cor-o-nets** /,kɪndˈhɑːts ˌkɒrənɪts/ a British COMEDY film made in 1949, with Alec Guinness playing eight members of an UPPER CLASS family who are all killed by someone who wants to become a DUKE

**kin-dle** /'kɪndl/ *v* [I;T] to (cause to) start burning: *to kindle a fire* | (fig.) *I'm afraid our publicity campaign failed to kindle much interest among the public.*

**kin-dling** /'kɪndlɪŋ/ *n* [U] materials for lighting a fire, esp. dry wood, leaves, grass, etc.

**kind-ly**<sup>1</sup> /'kaɪndli/ *adv* 1 in a kind way: *She spoke kindly to the old man.* —opposite **unkindly** 2 (esp. used to show annoyance) please: *Will you kindly put that book back?* | *Kindly put it back.* 3 not take kindly to not to accept willingly: *He didn't take kindly to being told how to behave.*

**kindly**<sup>2</sup> *adj fml* pleasantly; friendly or generous, esp. to those who are younger, weaker, or less important than oneself: *a kindly uncle/smile* — *~liness n* [U]

**kind-ness** /'kaɪndnəs/ *n* [(to)] 1 [U] the quality of being kind: *to show kindness to animals* 2 [C] a kind action: *I think it would be a kindness to tell him the bad news straight away.* —opposite **unkindness**; see also **kill with kindness** (**KILL**<sup>1</sup> (4))

**kin-dred**<sup>1</sup> /'kɪndrɪd/ *n* old use or fml 1 [P] one's relatives —compare **KIN** 2 [U (with)] family relationship; **KINSHIP**: *He claims kindred with royalty.*

**kindred**<sup>2</sup> *adj* [A] belonging to the same group; related: *Italian and Spanish and other kindred languages* | *He and I are kindred spirits: we have the same tastes and the same opinions.*

**kine** /kaɪn/ *n* [P] old use cattle

**ki-net-ic** /kɪ'netɪk, kaɪ-/ *adj fml or tech* of or about movement: **Kinetic art** involves the use of moving objects. — *~ally /kli/ adv*

**kinetic en-er-gy** /,kɪnɪk ˈɛnɜːdʒi/ *n* [U] *tech* the power of something moving, such as running water

**ki-net-ics** /kɪ'netɪks, kaɪ-/ *n* [U] the science that studies the action of force in producing or changing movement — compare **DYNAMICS**<sup>1</sup>

**kin-folk** /'kɪnfəʊk/ also **kinfolks** — *n* [P] *AmE* for **KINSFOLK**

**king** /kɪŋ/ *n* 1 [(of)] (sometimes cap.) (the title of) the male ruler of a country, usu. the son of a former ruler: *He became king on the death of his father.* | *the King of Spain* | *King Edward IV* (=the fourth) 2 [(of)] the most important man or male animal in a group, esp. a chief among competitors: *a cotton king* (=a powerful businessman in the cotton industry) | *The lion is king of the jungle/of beasts.* 3 a the most important piece in **CHESS** b [(of)] any of the four playing cards with a picture of a king: *the king of diamonds* —see **CARDS** (USAGE), and see picture at **CHESS**; see also **QUEEN**, **UNCROWNED KING**

**King**<sup>1</sup>, **The** a name sometimes used for the American singer Elvis Presley

**King**<sup>2</sup>, **Bil-lie Jean** /'bɪli dʒiːn/ (1943– ) an American tennis player, winner of four US Open titles and twenty titles at Wimbledon, where she was **CHAMPION** six times

**King**<sup>3</sup>, **Don** (1931– ) an arranger and advertiser of **BOXING** (fighting) matches known for being associated with important **BOXERS** and for his unusual hair style and behaviour

**King**<sup>4</sup>, **Martin Luther** (1929–68) a Black American minister and **CIVIL RIGHTS** leader, who received the 1964 Nobel Peace Prize, advised non-violence in fighting **RACISM** and was shot and killed in Memphis, Tennessee. He is remembered esp. for his famous speech which began with the words "I have a dream..." and expressed big hopes for the future of black people. —see picture on page 752

**King**<sup>5</sup>, **Rod-ney** /'rɒdni/ 'rɒd/ a black American who, in 1991, was badly beaten by a group of white policemen in Los Angeles. A citizen filmed the beating, and it was later shown on television. In 1992 the policemen involved in the event were found not guilty of using too much force by a **JURY** in Los Angeles, and this led to the Los Angeles **RIOTS**.

**King**<sup>6</sup>, **Ste-phen** /'stɪːvən/ (1947– ) a popular American writer of frightening stories such as *Carrie* and *The Shining*

**King and Coun-try debate** /,kɪŋ ˌkʌntri ˈdeɪbət/ [the] a famous **DEBATE**<sup>1</sup> (1) at Oxford University in 1933, in which students noted that they would not fight for their king and country. People at the time found this very shocking.

**king-dom** /'kɪŋdəm/ *n* 1 a country governed by a king or queen, or of which a king or queen is the head of state: *He ruled his kingdom wisely.* | *the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland* | (fig.) *the kingdom of God* —compare **EMPIRE** 2 an area in which the stated thing has the greatest influence; **REALM**: *the kingdom of the mind* 3 any of the three great divisions of natural objects: *the animal/plant/mineral kingdom* 4 **kingdom come** *infml, often humor* a the state after death: *The bomb blew him to kingdom come.* (=killed him) b an extremely long time: *You'll have to wait until kingdom come for him to buy you a drink!* 5 **Thy Kingdom come** a phrase from the **LORD'S PRAYER**

▷ **USAGE** A **kingdom** may be ruled over by a **queen**, like Britain is at present. <

**Kingdom Hall** /,kɪŋdəm ˈhɔːl/ *n* a place of worship for Jehovah's Witnesses

**King Ed-ward** /,kɪŋ ˈɛd-wəd/ *n* a common British variety of potato

**king-fish-er** /'kɪŋfɪʃə/ *n* a small brightly-coloured bird that feeds on fish in rivers, lakes, etc. —see picture at **BIRD**

**King James Ver-sion** /,kɪŋ ˈdʒeɪmz ˈvɜːʃən/ also **King James Bible** — [the] the **AUTHORIZED VERSION** of the Bible, produced in 1611 when James I was king of Britain. It is still the most popular **VERSION** of the Bible.

**King Kong** /,kɪŋ ˈkɒŋ/ -'kɒːŋ/ an extremely large **GORILLA** in the 1933 film of the same name, which terrorized (**TER-RORIZE**) the people of New York, taking a young woman prisoner and climbing the Empire State Building holding her under his arm

**King Lear** /,kɪŋ ˈliːə/ a play by William Shakespeare about an old king who divides his **KINGDOM** among his three daughters according to how much each says she loves him. Deceived by their words, he gives all the kingdom to the two who do not love him at all, leading to sad and terrible events.

**king-ly** /'kɪŋli/ *adj fml* belonging to or suitable to a king: *a kingly manner/feast*

**king-mak-er** /'kɪŋmeɪkə/ *n* *BrE* a person who can influence appointments to very high political office: *The party chairman is trying to play the role of kingmaker.*

**king of the cas-tle** /,kɪŋ ˌkɑːsl/ [the] the person in the most commanding, successful, etc., position (from the words of a **RHYME**<sup>1</sup> (1) in a children's game in which one child stands on something and the others try to pull him/her off it and take his/her place)

**King of the Jews** /,kɪŋ ˌdʒuːz/ another name for Jesus which is used in the Bible

**king-pin** /'kɪŋpɪn/ *n* [(of)] the most important person in a group, upon whom the success of the group depends;

Don King





**LINCHPIN:** *Sir George was the kingpin of the steel industry.*

**King's Bench** /, ɪ̯ ˈ ɪ̯/ also **King's Bench Di-vi-sion** /, ɪ̯ ˈ ɪ̯ ˌ ɪ̯ ˌ ɪ̯/ — *n* [the] (the name given, while a king is ruling, to) a division of the High Court of Justice in England — compare **QUEEN'S BENCH**

**King's College Chapel** /, ɪ̯ ˈ ɪ̯ ˌ ɪ̯ ˌ ɪ̯/ the church at King's College in Cambridge, England, where every Christmas Eve a **CAROL** service is held, led by a **CHOIR** of boys

**King's Counsel** /, ɪ̯ ˈ ɪ̯/ *n* see **KC**

**Kings Cross** /, ɪ̯ ˈ ɪ̯ ˌ ɪ̯/ an area of London where there are two main line railway stations and an Underground station. A very bad fire there in 1987 killed many travellers on the Underground. The area is also known as a place where many **PROSTITUTES** work. — see colour map on page 817

**King's English** /, ɪ̯ ˈ ɪ̯/ [the] (the expression sometimes used, when a king is ruling, to describe) good correct English as spoken in Britain — compare **QUEEN'S ENGLISH**

**king's ev-i-dence** /, ɪ̯ ˈ ɪ̯ ˌ ɪ̯/ *n* [U] *BrE* see **QUEEN'S EVIDENCE**

**king's e-vil** /, ɪ̯ ˈ ɪ̯/ *n* [the] *old use for* **SCROFULA**

**king-ship** /'kɪŋʃɪp/ *n* [U] the condition or official position of a king: *the responsibilities of kingship*

**king-size** /' ɪ̯ ˌ ɪ̯/ also **king-sized** — *adj* larger than the standard size: *a king-size bottle/packet* (fig.) *hangover* | *a king-size bed*

**Kings-ley** /'kɪŋzli/, **Charles** (1819–75) an English writer of historical **NOVELS** such as *Westward Ho!*, as well as the children's story *The Water Babies*

**King Sol-o-mon's Mines** /kɪŋ ˌsɒləmənz ˈmaɪnz/ —,saɪ-/ a book written by Henry Rider Haggard in 1885, an adventure story set in Africa

**Kings Road** /, ɪ̯ ˈ ɪ̯/ [(the)] (an area of London including) a road which used to be a centre of fashionable life in the 1960s, esp. among young people. It is still fashionable, but has become much more expensive.

**Kings-ton** /'kɪŋstən/ the capital city of Jamaica and the island's business centre, main port, and largest town

**Kingston-upon-Thames** /, ɪ̯ ˌ ɪ̯ ˌ ɪ̯/ a town in Surrey, England, where the local government for that **COUNTY** is based

**King Tut** /kɪŋ ˈtʊt, -ˈtʌt/ — see **TUTANKHAMEN**

**kink** /kɪŋk/ *n* 1 [(in)] an (unwanted) sharp turn or twist in hair, a rope, a chain, a pipe, etc.: *The water isn't coming out because there's a kink in the hosepipe.* 2 *infml* a strangeness of the mind or character, esp. with regard to sexual behaviour — **kinky** *adj*: *kinky ideas* | *a shop specializing in kinky black leather and rubber clothes*

**Kinks** /kɪŋks/, **The** a British popular music group successful in the 1960s and 1970s

**Kin-nock** /'kɪnək/, **Neil** /nɪəl/ (1942– ) a British politician, leader of the Labour Party from 1983 to 1992, born in Wales. He was leader of the Labour Party when it was very unpopular, and did much to improve its image, although some people think the party is now too right-wing. He resigned in 1992 following the party's defeat in the general election.

**Kin-ross-shire** /kɪn ˈrɒsfəɪ̯ ˌ ɪ̯ ˌ ɪ̯/ — 'rɒs-/ a former **COUNTY** in central Scotland, now part of Tayside **REGION**

**Kin-sey** /'kɪnzi/, **Al-fred Charles** /ˈælfred tʃaɪlz/ —tʃaɪlz/ (1894–1956) an American scientist who studied human sexual behaviour. His works, usu. called the **Kinsey Reports**, surprised everyone when they were published (**PUBLISH**) because they showed that people's sexual practices were very different from what most people thought.

**kins-folk** /'kɪnzfəʊk/ also **kinfolk** *AmE* — *n* [P] *old-fash* the members of one's family

**kin-ship** /'kɪŋʃɪp/ *n* 1 [U (with)] family relationship: *The kinship system in that tribe is very complicated.* 2 [S;U (with, between)] likeness in character, understanding, etc.: *I feel a certain kinship with him.* | *a strong feeling of kinship between us*

**Kin-ski** /'kɪnski/, **Klaus** /klaʊs/ (1926–92) a German actor who was in many Werner Herzog films such as *Nosferatu* and *Venom*

**kins-man** /'kɪnzməŋ/ **kins-wom-an** /-ˌwʊməŋ/ *fem.* — *n* -men /məŋ/ *old use* a relative

**ki-osk** /'kɪzɒsk/ —ɑːsk/ *n* 1 a small open hut, such as one used for selling newspapers 2 *BrE fml* a public telephone box, indoors or outdoors

**kip** 1 /kɪp/ *n* [S;U] *BrE sl* (a period of) sleep: *to have a kip* | *I didn't get much kip last night.*

**kip** 2 *v* -pp- [I] *BrE sl* 1 to sleep 2 [+adv/prep] to go to bed: *Let's kip (down) here for the night.*

**Kip-ling** /'kɪplɪŋ/, **Rud-yard** /ˈrʌdjəd/ —jərd/ (1865–1936) an English writer born in India, where his stories and poems are set. He is best known for his *Jungle Book*, the poem *If*, and stories for children. He received the Nobel Prize for literature in 1907.

**kip-per** /'kɪpəɪ̯/ *n* a salted **HERRING** (=kind of fish) to which salt has been added and that is preserved by being treated with smoke

**Kir-ghiz-i-a** /kɜː ˈgɪziə/ —kɪr-/ a country in S central Asia, bordering on China in the E; capital Bishkek; population 4,291,000 (1989)

**Kir-i-bat-i** /,kɪrɪ ˈbɑːti/ a country in the Pacific, near the Equator, consisting of 33 islands; capital Tarawa; population 72,298 (1987). It was formerly a British **COLONY** called the **Gilbert Islands** but has been independent since 1979.

**kirk** /kɜːk/ —kɜːrk/ *n* *ScotE* a church

**Kirk** [the] *ScotE* the Church of Scotland

**Kirk, Captain James T** the captain of the **SPACESHIP** *Starship Enterprise* in the television programme *Star Trek* — see also **STARTREK**

**Kirk-cud-bright-shire** /kə ˈkuːbrɪfəɪ̯ ˌkər-/ a former **COUNTY** in SW Scotland, now part of Dumfries and Galloway **REGION**

**Kirk-wall** /'kɜːkwɔːl/ —'kɜːrk-/ a town on the largest island of the Orkneys, where the local government for the islands is based

**kirsch** /kɪəʃ/ —kɪərʃ/ *n* [U] a strong alcoholic drink made from **CHERRY** juice

**kis-met** /'kɪzmet, ˈkɪs-/ *n* [U] *lit* fate; **DESTINY**

**kiss** 1 /kɪs/ *v* 1 [I; T] to touch with the lips as a sign of love or as a greeting: *In the final scene of the film, they kiss.* (=kiss each other on the lips) | *Kiss me!* | *He kissed her on the forehead.* | (fig., *lit*) *The wind kissed the trees.* (=touched and moved them gently)

► **CULTURAL NOTE** To kiss on the mouth is a sign of (usu. sexual) love; a kiss on the cheek, forehead, etc. is more a sign of friendship or family love. In most Western countries it is unusual for men to kiss each other, unless they are members of the same family or **HOMOSEXUAL**. ◀

2 [T] to express (something) to someone by kissing: [+obj(i)+obj(d)] *He kissed his wife goodbye/kissed his children goodnight.* [+obj+to] (fig.) *If you fail that exam you can kiss goodbye to* (=you will have lost) *your chance of going to university.* 3 **kiss hands** (in Britain) to ceremoniously kiss the king's or queen's hand as an official sign of being appointed to a high position in the government — ~able *adj*

**kiss** 2 *n* an act of kissing: *I gave her a kiss.* | *a passionate kiss* — see also **FRENCH KISS**, **KISS OF DEATH**, **KISS OF LIFE**, **blow someone a kiss** (**BLOW** 1 (15))

**kiss-a-gram, kiss-a-gram** /'kɪsəgræm/ — see **KISSOGRAM**

**kiss-and-tell** /, ɪ̯ ˌ ɪ̯/ *adj* [usu. A] (of sexual affairs, or newspaper etc. accounts of them) retold in public, and often in great detail, by one of the lovers after the affair is over. Often famous people are involved: *Kiss-and-tell stories in the tabloids* | *a kiss-and-tell lover*

**kiss-er** /'kɪsəɪ̯/ *n* 1 a person who kisses 2 *old-fash sl* the mouth

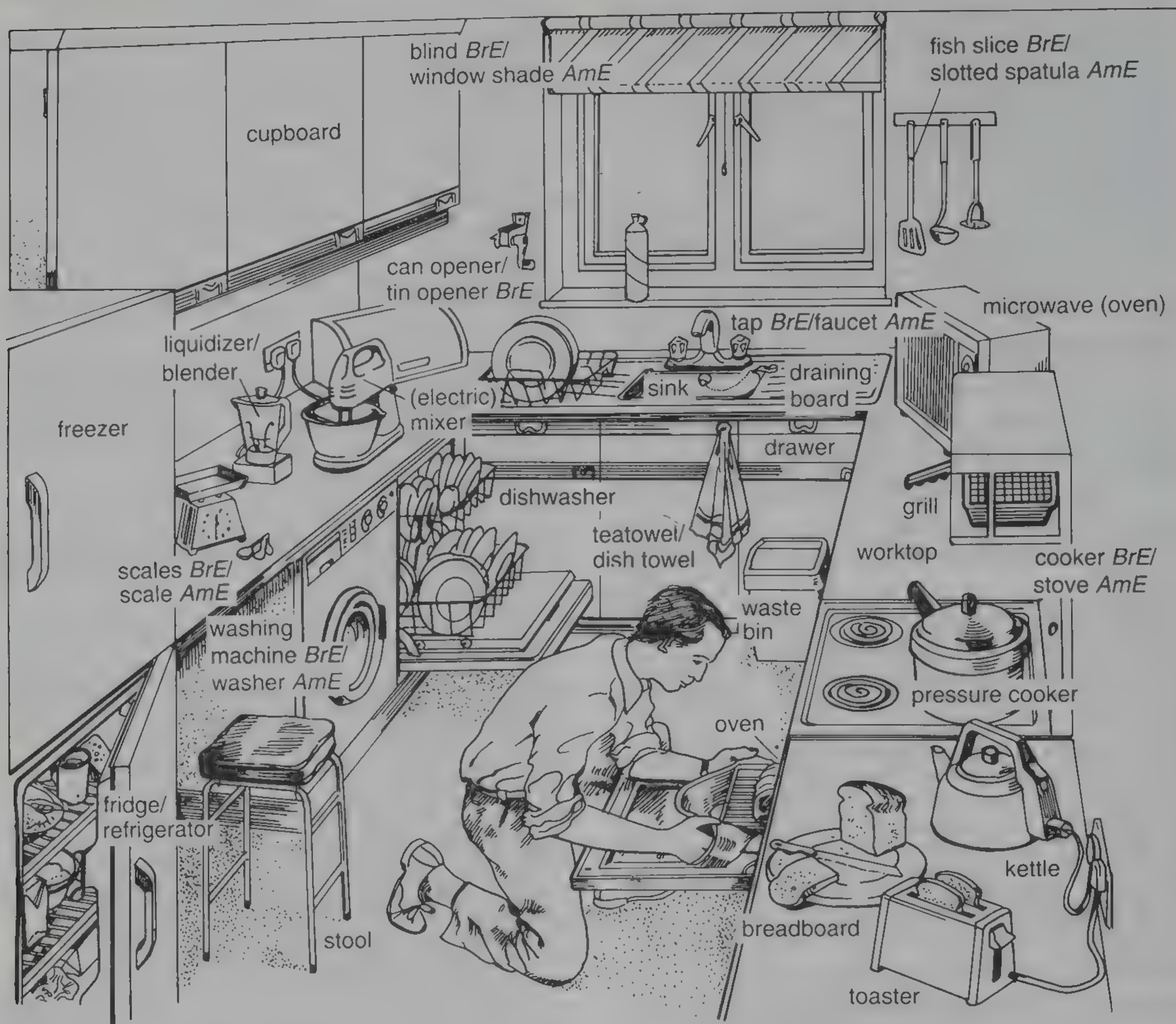
**kissing cous-in** /, ɪ̯ ˌ ɪ̯/ *n* *AmE old-fash* a **COUSIN** or other relative family member who one knows well enough to greet with a kiss

**Kis-sin-ger** /'kɪsɪndʒəɪ̯/, **Henry** (1923– ) an American politician and adviser who played an important part in American foreign **POLICY** in the 1970s. He received the 1973 Nobel Peace Prize for helping to stop the fighting in North Vietnam.

**kiss-me-quick hat** /, ɪ̯ ˌ ɪ̯ ˌ ɪ̯/ *n* *BrE* a cheap, usu. black, hat, with "kiss me quick" or some other **SLOGAN** on it, worn for fun usu. by young women at a **FAIRGROUND** or the **SEASIDE**

**kiss of death** /, ɪ̯ ˌ ɪ̯/ [the] *infml* something that makes failure certain: *The withdrawal of government funding gave our plan the kiss of death.*





**kiss of life** /ˌˌˌˌˌˌ/ [the] esp. BrE MOUTH-TO-MOUTH RESUSCITATION

**kis-so-gram, kissagram, kiss-a-gram** /ˈkɪsəgræm/ *n* 1 a message, often a humorous greeting, sent by way of a person dressed in **COSTUME**, who may either sing or speak it, and usu. gives the person receiving it a kiss 2 the person in such a costume who delivers the message

**kit**¹ /kɪt/ *n* 1 [C] a set of articles or tools needed for a particular purpose or job: *a shaving/repair kit* | *a survival kit* (=containing necessary food, tools, etc. to keep one alive for a time) | *first aid kit* (=containing supplies for medical **EMERGENCY**) 2 [U] BrE a set of clothes and other articles needed for daily life, esp. by soldiers, sailors, etc., or for playing a particular sport: *The captain wants to inspect your kit.* | *my football kit* 3 [C] a set of parts sold ready to be put together: *a model aircraft kit* | *This furniture comes as a kit/in kit form.* 4 **kit and caboodle** AmE *informal* everything: *She threw all my stuff out. Everything. The whole kit and caboodle.*

**kit**² *v* -tt-

**kit** sbdy. ↔ **out/up** *phr v* [T (with) often *pass.*] esp. BrE to supply with necessary things, esp. clothes: *They were all kitted out (with boots and trousers) for skiing.*

**kit bag** /ˌˌˌˌˌˌ/ *n* esp. BrE a long narrow bag used by soldiers, sailors, etc., for carrying kit –compare **DUFFEL BAG**

**kit car** /ˌˌˌˌˌˌ/ *n* a car whose engine, body parts, and **CHASSIS** are bought separately and put together by the buyer

**kitch-en** /ˈkɪtʃən/ *n* 1 a room where food is prepared and cooked: *We usually eat breakfast in the kitchen.* | *kitchen appliances, such as food mixers* 2 **everything but the kitchen sink** *humor* a larger amount than seems necessary: *He's only staying three days, but he arrived with everything but the kitchen sink.* (=lots of bags, cases, etc.)

**Kitch-en-er** /ˈkɪtʃənər/, **Ho-ra-ti-o** /həˈreɪʃiəʊ/, **First Earl** (1850–1916) a British soldier, also known as **Lord**

**Kitchener** or **Field Marshal Earl Kitchener**, who fought in the Sudan, won victory over the Boers, and greatly increased the size of the British army in the First World War. He appeared on a **POSTER** in the First World War with the **SLOGAN** **Your country needs you**, urging men to join the British Army.

**kitch-en-ette** /ˌkɪtʃəˈnet/ *n* a very small kitchen, or a part of a room used for cooking

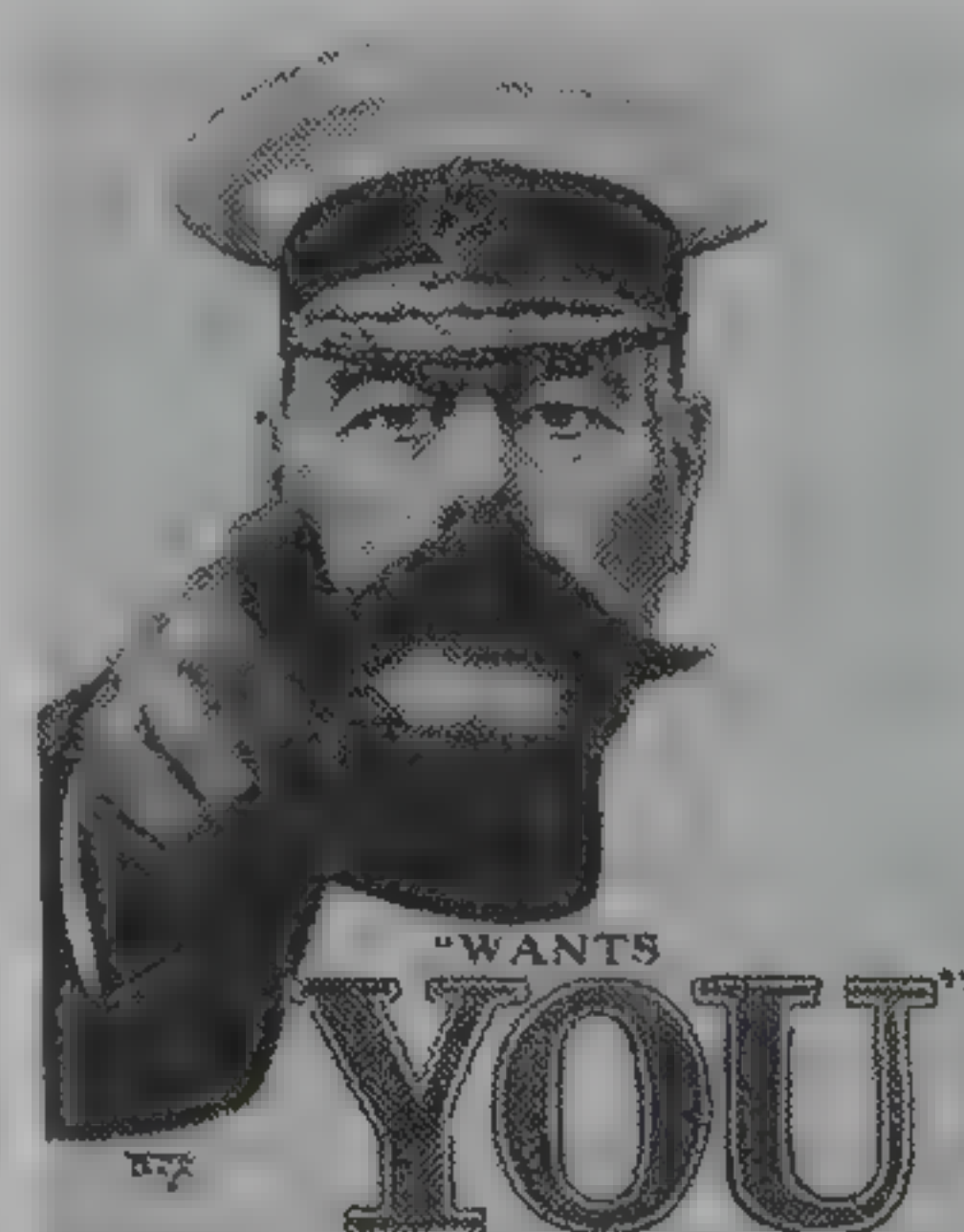
**kitchen garden** /ˌˌˌˌˌˌ/ *n* esp. BrE a garden where fruit and vegetables are grown, usu. for eating at home rather than for sale

**kitchen roll** /ˌˌˌˌˌˌ/ also **kitchen paper** /ˌˌˌˌˌˌ/, **towel** BrE || **paper towel** AmE– *n* [C;U] thick, **ABSORBENT** paper used mainly in the kitchen for cleaning up small amounts of food, liquid, dirt, etc.: *Pass me a piece of kitchen roll/a paper towel*

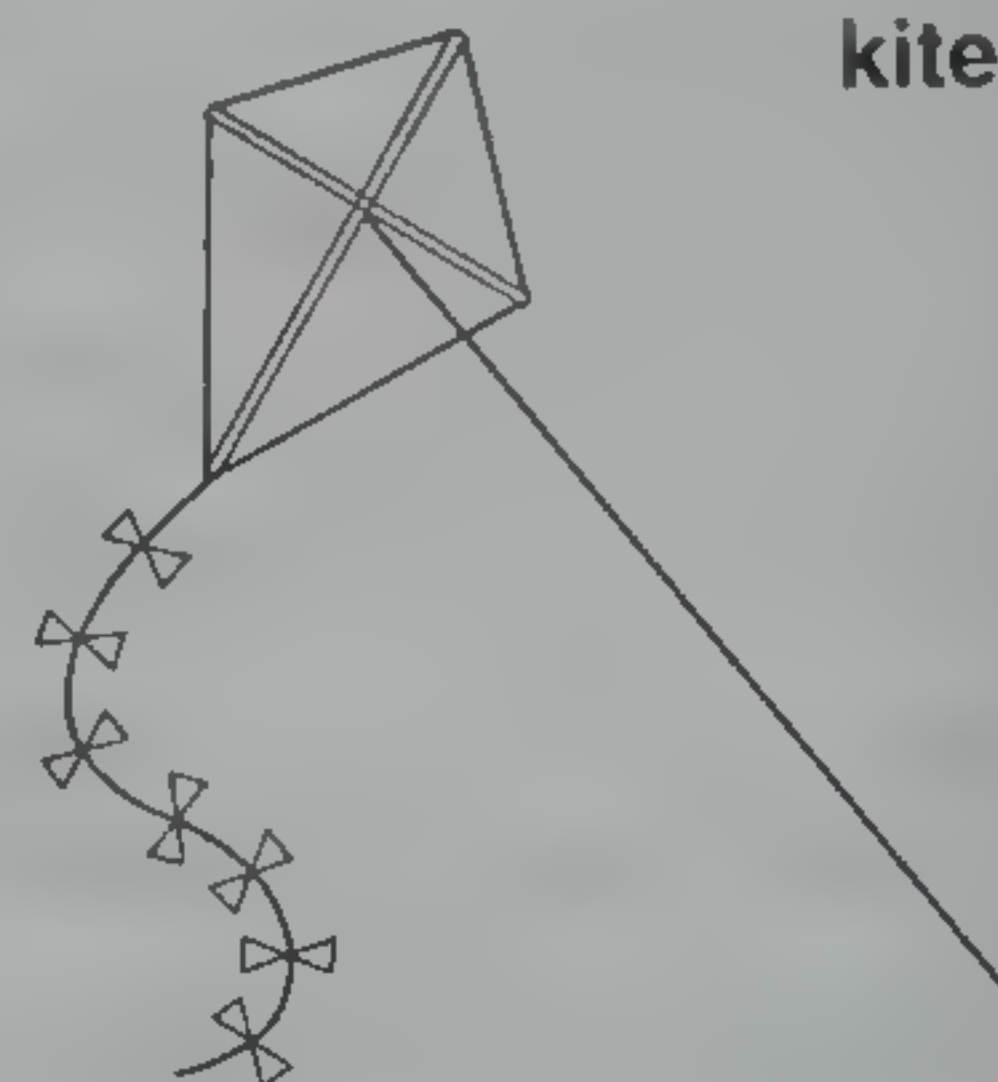
**kitchen-sink dra-ma** /ˌˌˌˌˌˌ/ *n* [C;U] a serious play or plays about working-class home life, esp. as written in Britain in the late 1950s and the 1960s

**kite**¹ /kaɪt/ *n* 1 a paper-covered or cloth-covered frame flown in the air at the end of a long string using the power of the wind, esp. for amusement: *The children are*

**Lord Kitchener**



**kite**





on the hillside flying their kites. —see also fly a kite (FLY<sup>1</sup> (12)), go fly a kite (FLY<sup>1</sup> (15)) **2** a large bird (HAWK) that kills and eats small birds and animals

**kite<sup>2</sup>** *v* [I;T] *AmE* to obtain money or goods by writing a cheque or using a CREDIT CARD when one does not have the money in the bank to cover the payment: *One member kited 996 checks totaling \$251,000.*

**Kit-E-Kat** /'kɪtkæt/ *n tdmk* a company which makes tinned and dried food for cats

**kite-mark** /'kaɪtmɑ:k/ *n* a special mark put on many kinds of goods in Britain to show that they meet the safety standards of the British Standards Institution

kitemark



**kith and kin** /,kɪθ ən 'kɪn/ *n* [P] people of one's own family, country, etc.: *You can't refuse to help them; they're your own kith and kin.*

**Kit-Kat** /'kɪtkæt/ *tdmk n* a sweet made of (two or four) fingers of BISCUIT joined together by, and covered with, chocolate

**kitsch** /kɪtʃ/ *n* [U] *derog* popular decorative objects, writing, etc., that pretend to be art but are silly and worthless: *She's decorated her flat with all kinds of plastic kitsch.* | *His new film is pure kitsch.* — *y adj*

**kit-ten** /'kɪtn/ *n* **1** a young cat **2** have a kitten/kittens *infml* to be very nervous and anxious: *I thought she was going to have kittens when I told her the job would be late.*

**kit-ten-ish** /'kɪtn-ɪʃ/ *adj* *often derog* (esp. of a woman) playful like a kitten, esp. so as to attract sexual attention — *~ly adv*

**kit-ti-wake** /'kɪtiweɪk/ *n* a kind of GULL (=a seabird) with long wings

**kit-ty** /'kɪti/ *n* **1** (in some card games) an amount of money collected from all the players at the beginning and taken by the winner **2** *infml* a sum of money collected by a group of people, and used for an agreed purpose: *All the prize money won by individual players goes into the team's kitty.*

**kitty<sup>2</sup>** *n* (used, esp. by children, for calling or talking to) a cat or KITTEN: *"Here, kitty kitty," called the little girl.*

**kitty-corner** /'kɪtɪˌkɔːnə/ also **catty-corner** — *adv AmE infml* diagonally (DIAGONAL) across the street from the stated place (usu. a corner): *There's a drugstore kitty-corner from the bank.* | *I live kitty-corner from/to the school.*

**Kitty Hawk** /'kɪtɪˌhaʊk/ the place in North Carolina where the Wright Brothers first flew an aeroplane successfully in 1903

**Ki-wa-nis** /kɪ'wa:nɪz/ [*the*] a SERVICE CLUB which has branches across the US, esp. in small towns. A member of the club is called a **Kiwani**.

**ki-wi** /'ki:wi:/ *n* **1** a New Zealand bird with very short wings that cannot fly **2** *sl* (usu. *cap.*) a New Zealander

**kiwi fruit** /'kiːˌfruɪt/ *n* a small fruit with a brown skin and green flesh, popular in fruit SALADS and DESSERTS

**KKK** /,keɪ keɪ 'keɪ/ [*the*] *abbrev. for* KU KLUX KLAN

**Klam-mer** /'klæməʃ/, **Franz** /frænts || frɑːnts/ (1953– ) an Austrian SKIER, one of the best of all time, winner of one Olympic and five world titles

**klatch** *n* see COFFEE KLATCH

**klax-on** /'klæksən/ *n* a very loud usu. electric horn, used, esp. formerly, on motor vehicles

**Kleen-ex** /'kliːnɛks/ *n* [C;U] *tdmk* (a sheet of) thin soft paper, used as a handkerchief. The word is sometimes used, esp. in *AmE*, for any kind of paper handkerchief: *Do you have a/any Kleenex?* —see TISSUE (3)

**Klein** /klaɪn/, **Calvin** (1942– ) an American clothes DESIGNER, known esp. for his informal (CASUAL) clothes

**klep-to-ma-ni-a** /,kleptə'meɪniə/ *n* [U] a disease of the mind causing an uncontrollable desire to steal

**klep-to-ma-ni-ac** /,kleptə'meɪniæk/ *infml klep-to* /'kleptəʊ/ *n* a person suffering from kleptomania

**Klon-dike** /'klɒndaɪk||'klaɪn-/ [*the*] an area in NW Canada, in the Yukon. Gold was discovered there in the 1890s, leading to the **Klondike Gold Rush** when many people

went to the area to look for gold. —see also GOLD RUSH (1)

**klutz** /klʌts/ also **clutz** — *n AmE* a person who is awkward and ungraceful in their movements or actions

**km** *written abbrev. for:* kilometre(s)

**K Mart** /'keɪ mɑ:t||-mɑ:rt/ a large chain of popular department stores in the US that sells everything cheaper than the usual price — **K-Mart** *adj* : *K-Mart shoppers*

**knack** /næk/ *n* [(the) S] *infml* a special skill or ability, usu. the result of practice: *He has a/the knack of making friends wherever he goes.* | *It's not so difficult to thread these wires through the holes once you've got the knack of it.*

**knack-ered** /'nækəd||-ərd/ *adj* [F] *BrE sl* extremely tired; exhausted (EXHAUST 1). The word is not usu. used in polite company.

**knack-er's yard** /'nækəz ˌjɑ:d||-ərz ˌjɑ:rd/ *n BrE* a place where old horses are killed, esp. so that their flesh can be sold as animal food: (fig.) *That old car of yours is only fit for the knacker's yard.* (=you should get rid of it)

**knap-sack** /'næpsæk/ *n* RUCKSACK

**knave** /neɪv/ *n* **1** *BrE* the CARD<sup>1</sup> (1) with a value between the ten and the queen; the JACK —see CARDS (USAGE) **2** *old use* a dishonest man or boy — **knavish** *adj* — **knavishly** *adv*

**knave-ry** /'neɪvəri/ *n* [C;U] *esp. old use* (a piece of) dishonest behaviour

**knead** /niːd/ *v* [T] **1** to press (esp. a flour-and-water mixture for making bread) firmly and repeatedly with the hands: *The cook kneaded the dough.* **2** to press or make other movements on (a muscle or other part of the body) to cure pain, stiffness, etc.: *The masseur kneaded my back.*

**knee<sup>1</sup>** /niː/ *n* **1** the middle joint of the leg, where it bends: *He got down on his hands and knees to crawl under the table.* | *a baby sitting on its father's knee* | *She went down on her knees to pray/to beg for mercy.* | *pain in the knees* —see picture at HORSE **2** the part of a pair of trousers, TIGHTS, etc., that covers the knee: *big holes in the knees of his old trousers* **3** bend the knee to (someone) lit to admit that (someone) has control over one **4** bring someone to their knees to force someone to admit defeat —see also the bee's knees (BEE), at one's mother's knee (MOTHER<sup>1</sup>), weak at the knees (WEAK)

**knee<sup>2</sup>** *v -d* [T (in)] to hit with the knee: *The wrestler kneed his opponent in the stomach.*

**knee breech-es** /'niːˌbrɛtʃ-ɪz/ *n* [P] old-fashioned short tight trousers reaching to just below the knee, esp. as worn on ceremonial occasions —see PAIR<sup>1</sup> (USAGE)

**knee-cap<sup>1</sup>** /'niːkæp/ *n* the bone at the front of the knee —see picture at SKELETON

**kneecap<sup>2</sup>** *v -pp-* [T] to shoot the kneecaps of (someone), usu. as an unofficial punishment. This form of punishment has often been used by TERRORISTS in Northern Ireland.

**knee-deep** /'niːˌdiːp/ *adj* [(in)] deep enough to reach the knees: *The water is knee-deep.* | *He was knee-deep in mud.* | (fig.) *knee-deep in work* (=having a lot of work to do)

**knee-high** /'niːˌhaɪ/ *adj* **1** tall enough to reach the knees: *The grass was knee-high.* **2** knee-high to a grasshopper *infml* humor (esp. of a child) very small or young

**knee-jerk** /'niːˌdʒɜːk/ *adj* [A] *derog* (of opinions) held or produced without thought, as the result of long habit: *his knee-jerk reaction to feminism* | *a knee-jerk Liberal*

**kneel** /niːl/ *v* **knelt** /nelt/ || also **kneeled** *AmE* — [I (DOWN, ON)] to go down onto or remain on one's knee(s): *She knelt (down) on the mat and began to pray.*

**knee-length** /'niːˌlɛŋθ/ *adj* long enough to reach the knees: *a knee-length skirt* | *knee-length boots*

**knee sock** /'niːˌsɒk/ *n* a sock which comes up to the knee. Knee socks are worn esp. by young girls.

**knees-up** /'niːˌsʌp/ *n* *esp. BrE infml* a party or other celebration, usu. involving dancing: *The office Christmas party was a real knees-up.*

**knell** /nel/ *n* *esp. lit* the sound of a bell rung slowly, esp. for a death or funeral: (fig.) *His decision sounds the death knell for all our hopes.* (=means that our hopes will not be fulfilled)

**Knes-set** /'kneset/ [*the*] the Israeli parliament



**knew** /nju: || nu: / *past tense of KNOW*<sup>1</sup>

**knick-er-bock-er glo-ry** /'nikəbəkə 'glɔ:ri || -kərbəkər/ *n* a sweet dish made from fruit, ice cream, JELLY, and cream, served in a tall glass; a **SUNDAE**

**knick-er-bock-ers** /'nikə,bəkəz || 'nikər,bəkərz/ *n* [P] short loose trousers made to fit tightly just below the knees, worn esp. in former times —see **PAIR**<sup>1</sup> (USAGE)

**knick-ers**<sup>1</sup> /'nikəz || -ərz/ *n* [P] 1 *BrE infml* a short undergarment worn by women and girls, covering the area between the waist and the top of the legs; **PANTIES**: *a pair of frilly knickers* —compare **UNDERPANTS** 2 *AmE* knickerbockers 3 *get one's knickers in a twist* *BrE humor sl* to become angry or confused —see **PAIR**<sup>1</sup> (USAGE)

**knickers**<sup>2</sup> *interj BrE humor sl* (used as an expression of fearless disrespect)

**knick-knack, nicknack** /'nik næk/ *n infml* a small cheap decorative object, esp. for the house: *various knick-knacks on the mantelpiece*

**knife**<sup>1</sup> /naɪf/ *n* **knives** /naɪvz/ 1 a blade fixed in a handle, used for cutting as a tool or weapon; in Britain, it is illegal to carry a knife around with you, as it is considered to be a dangerous weapon: *He picked up the knife and stabbed her.* | *a table knife* (=for cutting up one's food) | *hunting knives* | *to sharpen a blunt knife* —see also **FORK**<sup>1</sup> 2 *BrE* *have/get one's knife in/into someone infml* to continue to treat someone as an enemy: *I don't know why, but she's really got her knife in him at the moment.* —see picture at **PLACE SETTING**, and see also **PAPER KNIFE**

> **USAGE** Note the fixed phrase **knife and fork**: *Put your knife and fork down on the plate if you've finished eating.*

**knife**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T (in)] to stick a knife into (someone); **STAB**: *He was knifed in the stomach during a street-fight.*

**knife-edge** /'nɪf-ɛdʒ/ *n* 1 something narrow and sharp: *a knife-edge of rocks just below the surface of the sea* | *knife-edge pleats in a skirt* 2 *on a knife-edge*: a (of a person) very anxious about the future result of something: *on a knife-edge about the exams* b delicately balanced; with the result extremely uncertain: *The success or failure of the plan was balanced on a knife-edge.*

## knight



**knight**<sup>1</sup> /naɪt/ *n* 1 (in former times) a man of noble rank trained to fight, esp. on horseback: *knights in armour* —see also **ROUND TABLE**, **WHITE KNIGHT** 2 a man who has the title **SIR**, given to him by the king or queen —compare **DAME**; see also **DUB** 3 (in **CHES**) a piece, usu. with a horse's head, that moves two squares forward or backward and one or two squares sideways, moving three squares altogether —see picture at **CHES** 4 **knight in shining armour** a brave or admirable person, esp. one who saves a person from a dangerous or difficult situation. In old stories, a **knight in shining armour** (=a noble man wearing a suit of **ARMOUR**) often rescued (**RESCUE**) a young noble woman called a **damsel in distress**. —see also **DAMSEL**

**knight**<sup>2</sup> *v* [T] to make (someone) a knight: *He has been knighted by the Queen for services to British industry.*

**knight-er-rant** /'naɪt-ə-rant/ *n* **knights-errant** a knight in former times who wandered in search of adventures, esp. ones which included helping people in trouble

**knight-hood** /'naɪthud/ *n* [C;U] the rank, title, or state of a knight: *He received a knighthood for his services to British industry.*

**knight-ly** /'naɪtli/ *adj* lit of or suitable to a knight, esp. in being brave and noble: *knightly conduct*

**Knights-bridge** /'naɪtsbrɪdʒ/ an area of W central London which has a number of expensive, fashionable shops, and where it is generally very expensive to live

**Knights of the Round Table** /'naɪtsəv'raʊnd'teɪbəl/ [the +P] according to old stories, the **KNIGHTS** (**KNIGHT**<sup>1</sup> (1)) of the court of King Arthur, who all sat at a round table so that none appeared to be more important than any others —see also **ARTHURIAN LEGEND**

**Knights Templars** /'naɪts'templəz || -ərz/ [the+P] members of the military religious order of the Poor Knights of Christ, also called **Knights of the Temple of Solomon**. They protected people travelling in the Holy Land during the Crusades.

**knit**<sup>1</sup> /nɪt/ *v* **knitted or knit** [I;T] 1 to make (things to wear) by joining woollen threads into a close network with long needles (**knitting needles**). Knitting is usu. done by women: *to knit a sweater* | *I can knit while I watch TV.* [+obj(i)+obj(d)] *She's knitting the baby a pair of booties.* —compare **CROCHET**<sup>2</sup> 2 *tech* to use a **PLAIN**<sup>4</sup> stitch in making (something) in this way: *Knit one, purl one.* | *Knit to the last ten stitches.* —compare **PURL** 3 [(TOGETHER)] to join (people or things) closely: *It's not a serious break; the bone should knit (together) in a couple of weeks.* 4 **knit one's brows** lit to show displeasure, worry, or deep thought by frowning (**FROWN**<sup>1</sup>) —see also **CLOSE-KNIT** —ter *n*: *She's a fast knitter.*

**knit**<sup>2</sup> *n* **PLAIN**<sup>4</sup>

**knit-ting** /'nɪtɪŋ/ *n* [U] something which is being knitted: *She keeps her knitting in a bag.*

**knitting machine** /'nɪtɪŋməʃɪn/ *n* a machine used for knitting

**knit-wear** /'nɪt-weə/ *n* [U] knitted clothing: *This shop sells ~ knitwear.*

**knives** /naɪvz/ *pl. of KNIFE<sup>1</sup>*

**knob** /nɒb || nɑ:b/ *n* 1 a round lump, esp. on the surface or at the end of something: *a stick with a knob on the end* | *a knob of butter* 2 a round handle or control button: *the knobs on a TV* 3 *Br taboo sl* a **PENIS** 4 *with knobs on* *BrE old-fash sl* (used to make esp. an angry remark stronger): *"You're an idiot!" "And the same to you, with knobs on!"*

**knob-bly** /'nɒbli || 'nɑ:bli/ *BrE* || **knob-by** /'nɒbi || 'nɑ:bi/ *AmE* —*adj* having round knob-like lumps: *knobbly knees*

**knock**<sup>1</sup> /nɒk || nɑ:k/ *v* 1 [I] a [(against)] to come into forceful connection with, usu. making a noise when doing so: *a branch knocking against the window* b [(on, at)] to hit a door firmly with esp. one's hand or a **KNOCKER** (1), esp. in order to inform the people inside of one's presence: *Please knock (on/at the door) before entering.* —compare **TAP**<sup>3</sup> 2 [T] a to hit hard: *Don't knock those glasses, they're fragile!* [+obj+adv/prep] *He knocked the fish on the head to kill it quickly.* | *She knocked a cup off the table.* | *She knocked some nails into the wall.* | *He knocked their heads together to make them see sense.* [+obj+adj] *A falling branch knocked him unconscious.* b [+obj+adv/prep] to make (something) by hitting hard: *He knocked a hole in the wall.* 3 [T] *infml* to express unfavourable opinions about; **CRITICIZE**: *Stop knocking him; he's doing his best.* 4 [I] (of a car engine) to make a noise because something is wrong: *If the engine starts knocking, it could be a worn big-end bearing.* —see also **ANTI-KNOCK** 5 **knock someone cold**: a to **KNOCK out** (1a) b also **knock someone sideways**/for six— to surprise someone and usu. make them unable to act in reply: *The news of her sudden death really knocked me for six.* 6 **knock something on the head infml** to prevent a hope, plan, suggestion, etc. from being put into action 7 **knock someone's block off** (esp. in threats) to hit someone very severely: *If you insult my wife again I'll knock your block off!* 8 **knock spots off** *BrE infml* to defeat easily; be much better than: *He can knock spots off me at tennis.* 9 **knock the bottom out of infml** to take away the necessary support on which something rests: *The bad news knocked the bottom out of market prices.* | *That knocks the bottom out of my argument.* 10 **take a knock** to suffer a physical blow: (fig.) *Her hopes of becoming an MP have taken quite a knock.* 11 *you could have knocked me*



down/over with a feather *infml*, often *humor* I was extremely surprised —see also **knock one's head against a brick wall** (HEAD<sup>1</sup> (25)) **12 knock on wood** *AmE* || **touch wood** *BrE* (used to keep away bad luck, so that something good will continue): *My house has never been burgled, knock on wood.*

**knock about/around** *phr v infml* **1** [I;T (=knock about sthg.) *no pass.*] to remain unnoticed in (a place): *That old typewriter has been knocking about (the house) for years.* **2** [I+adv/prep] to be active, and esp. to travel continuously: *He's knocked about in Africa for years.* **3** [I (with, TOGETHER)] to be seen in public (with someone); have a relationship, often sexual: *Sally's been knocking about with Jim for years.* **4** [T] (knock sbdy. about) to treat roughly, esp. by hitting: *They say he knocks his wife about.* | *The prisoner seemed to have been knocked about a bit.* —see also **KICK<sup>1</sup> about/around**

**knock back** *phr v* [T] *infml* **1** (knock sthg. ↔ back) to drink quickly or in large quantities: *I've seen him knock back ten whiskies in an evening.* **2** (knock sbdy. back sthg.) *BrE* to cost (a large amount): *That car must have knocked you back a few pounds!* **3** (knock sbdy. back) to surprise; shock: *The news really knocked him back.*

**knock sbdy./sthg. ↔ down** *phr v* [T often *pass.*] **1** to destroy and remove the structure of (a building, bridge, etc.); **DEMOLISH**: *Our house is being knocked down to make way for a new road.* **2** *BrE* also (knock sbdy. ↔ over—to hit (someone) with the vehicle one is driving, so that they fall to the ground: *Alec was knocked down by a bus yesterday.* **3** [(to)] to (cause to) reduce (a price): *The price was knocked down to £3.* | *I knocked him down to £3.* **4** [(to)] (at an AUCTION) to sell, usu. at a low price: *The wine was knocked down at £30/was knocked down to Mr Johnson for £30.* —see also **KNOCKDOWN**

**knock sthg. into sbdy.** *phr v* [T] to teach to (someone) by force (not usu. physical force): *Try to knock some sense into him/into his head.* —see also **knock something into shape** (SHAPE<sup>1</sup> (5))

**knock off** *phr v* **1** [T] (knock sthg. ↔ off) (of a seller) to lower a price by (the stated amount): *As it's slightly damaged, I'll knock \$2 off.* **2** [I;T (=knock off sthg.) *no pass.*] *infml* to stop doing (something, esp. work): *Let's knock off (work) early today.* | *Here, knock it off!* (=stop being annoying) *Can't you see I'm trying to concentrate?* **3** [T] (knock sthg. ↔ off) *infml* to produce quickly or (too) easily: *He can knock off a fake Renoir in an afternoon.* —see also **KNOCKOFF** **4** [T] (knock sthg. ↔ off) *BrE sl* to steal: *He's knocked off a lorry-load of TV sets.* **5** [T] (knock off sthg.) also **knock over** *AmE*—*sl* to rob: *They knocked off the Post Office and got away with £4000.* **6** [T] (knock sbdy. ↔ off) *sl* to murder

**knock sbdy./sthg. ↔ out** *phr v* [T] **1** a to knock unconscious **b** (in **BOXING**) to make (one's opponent) lose consciousness or be unable to rise before a count of ten seconds —see also **KNOCKOUT<sup>1</sup>** **2** *infml* (of a drug) to make (someone) go to sleep: *A few drops of morphia will knock him out.* —see also **KNOCKOUT<sup>2</sup>** **3** [(of) often *pass.*] to defeat and so dismiss from a competition; **ELIMINATE**: *Our team was knocked out in the first round of the competition.* **4** to cause to suddenly fail to work; make useless: *Telephone communications were knocked out by the storm.* **5** *sl* to fill with great admiration: *The way that group plays really knocks me out.*

**knock over** *phr v* [T] **1** (knock sbdy. over) to **KNOCK down** (2) **2** (knock over sthg.) *AmE* for **KNOCK off** (5)

**knock sthg. ↔ together** *phr v* [T] to make quickly and without great care: *She knocked together a meal out of leftovers.*

**knock up** *phr v* **1** [T] (knock sthg. ↔ up) *BrE infml* to make in a hurry: *I can probably knock up a meal if you wait a few minutes.* **2** [T] (knock sbdy. up) *BrE infml* to wake by knocking: *Knock me up at 7.30.* **3** [I] *BrE* (esp. in tennis) to practise before beginning a real game **4** [T] (knock sbdy. ↔ up) *AmE taboo sl* to cause (a woman, esp. one who is not married) to become **PREGNANT**

**knock<sup>2</sup> n** **1** (the sound of) a striking action: *a knock at the door* **2** *infml* a piece of bad luck or trouble: *He's taken/had quite a few hard knocks lately.* **3** a (single) sound made by an engine knocking (**KNOCK<sup>1</sup>** (4))

**knock-a-bout** /'nɒkəbaʊt/ || 'nɑː-/ *adj* [A] (of a theatre performance, a film, or a performer) causing laughter by wild silly behaviour; **SLAPSTICK**: *a knockabout comedy*

**knock-down** /'nɒkdaʊn/ || 'nɑːk-/ *adj* [A] (of a price) the

lowest possible: *He couldn't sell them even at the knock-down price of £5.* —see also **KNOCK down**

**knock-down-drag-out** /'nɒkdaʊndræɡaʊt/ *adj* *AmE* showing very violent behaviour and unwillingness to stop from fighting: *a knock-down-drag-out boxing match/divorce*

**knock-er** /'nɒkə/ || 'nɑː-/ *n* **1** also **doorknocker**—a metal instrument fixed to a door and used by visitors for knocking at the door **2** *derog* a person who is always expressing unfavourable opinions

**knock-ers** /'nɒkəz/ || 'nɑːkəz/ *n* [P] *sl* a woman's breasts

**knock-kneed** /'nɒkniːd/ || 'nɑː-/ *adj* having knees that bend inwards and so often touch each other when walking

**knock-knock joke** /'nɒknɒk/ || 'nɑː-/ *n* a joke which begins by the teller saying "Knock-knock"; the listener replies by saying "Who's there?" and the joke usu. is funny because of a clever way of using words (=PUN): "Knock-knock." "Who's there?" "Ivan" "Ivan who?" "Ivan (=I've an) idea you don't want to let me in."

**knock-off** /'nɒkɒf/ || 'nɑːkɒf/ *n* *AmE infml* a cheap copy of something expensive: *knockoffs of fashionable sports shoes*

**knock-on** /'nɒkɒn/ || 'nɑː-/ *adj* [A] *esp. BrE* marked by a set of events, actions, etc., each of which is caused by the one before: *These price rises will have a knock-on effect throughout the economy.* —compare **DOMINO EFFECT**

**knock-out** /'nɒk-aʊt/ || 'nɑːk-/ *n* **1** also **KO**—(in **BOXING**) an act of knocking one's opponent down so that he cannot get up again: *He won the fight by a knockout.* | (fig.) *The new regulations dealt a knockout blow to (=ruined) our chances of starting up a business.* —see also **KNOCK out** **2** a competition from which one is dismissed if one loses a match: *Our team got to the final of the knockout competition.* **3** *infml* someone or something causing great admiration: *Their latest record's a real knockout.*

**knockout<sup>2</sup>** *adj infml* **1** causing great admiration: *a knockout dress/song* **2** causing unconsciousness: *knockout drops*

**knock-up** /'nɒkʌp/ || 'nɑː-/ *n* **1** [C] *BrE* (esp. in tennis) an act or period of knocking up (**KNOCK up**) **2** [U] *AmE taboo sl* for **SEXUAL INTERCOURSE**

**knoll** /nɒl/ *n* a small round hill

**knot** /nɒt/ || 'nɑːt/ *n* **1** a fastening formed by tying together the ends of a piece or pieces of string, rope, wire, etc.: *She tied her belt with a knot.* | (fig., *pomp*) *Now that divorce is easier, untying the marriage knot is no longer such a problem.* —see also **GRANNY KNOT**, **REEF KNOT** **2** a hard mass formed in wood at the place where a branch joins a tree **3** [(of)] a small group of people close together: *Little knots of people had formed, excitedly whispering about the rumours.* **4** a hard swelling or mass: *The muscles of his arms stood out in knots as he lifted the heavy box.* **5** a measure of the speed of a ship, about 1853 metres (= 6080 feet) per hour —see also **GORDIAN KNOT**, **at a rate of knots** (**RATE<sup>1</sup>**), **tie the knot**, **tie (up) in knots** (**TIE<sup>2</sup>**)

**knot<sup>2</sup> v** -tt- [T (TOGETHER)] **1** to join together (pieces of string, rope, wire, etc.) with a knot: *Knot the ends of the rope together.* | *She had a scarf knotted round her neck.* **2** **Get knotted!** *BrE sl* (expresses great, sometimes pretended, annoyance at a person)

**knot-ty** /'nɒti/ || 'nɑːti/ *adj* **1** (of wood) containing knots: *knotty pine furniture* **2** full of difficulties: *a knotty problem*

**Knotty Ash** /'nɒti ʌʃ/ a part of Liverpool famous for being the home of the **Diddymen**, characters invented by the British **COMEDIAN** Ken Dodd —see also **DIDDYMEN**, **Ken DODD**

**know** /nəʊ/ *v* **knew** /njuː/ || 'nuː/, **known** /nəʊn/ [*not in progressive forms*] **1** [I;T (about)] to have knowledge of (something), esp. as a result of personal experience; have (information) in the mind: *I asked her where you were, but she said she didn't know.* | "He's very ill." "Yes, I know." | *I think so, but I don't know for certain.* | "Where's the library?" "I wouldn't know." (=I don't know.) | *As far as/So far as I know, he's abroad.* (=I believe that he is) | *I think he knows about it, but he won't admit it.* | *Do you know the answer to this question?* | *What do you know about the disappearance of all this money?* | *He's missed the last three meetings — I might have known he'd miss this one.* | *He thinks he knows all the answers.* (=behaves as if he knows everything) | *When it comes to politics, she really knows what she's talking about.*



(=knows a lot about politics) | "Be careful with that dynamite!" "Don't worry; I know what I'm doing." (=I have enough skill and experience to deal with it properly) | I want to know (=to be told) what you intend to do about this. | She knows LA like the back of her hand (=very well indeed) [+ (that)] I know (that) she doesn't like it. | How was I to know it would explode? (=I could not possibly have known it) [+wh-] Do you know where they are? | The door opened and you-know-who came in. (=you can guess who it was) | (fml) I know him to be (=know that he is) a liar/dishonest. **2** [T] to have learnt (and be able to do): She really knows her job. (=is very good at it) | He knows all of Keats's poetry by heart. | Do you know (=can you speak and read) German? [+wh-] I don't know how to swim. —see also KNOW-HOW **3** [T] to be familiar with (a person, place, etc.): I've known Martin for years. | Do you know New York well? | He's a strange man, but quite pleasant when you get to know him. | He'll be late as usual, knowing him. **4** [T (by)] to be able to recognize: I'd know him again if I saw him. | She knows a good wine when she tastes it. | You'll know him by the colour of his hair. —see also KNOW **apart**, KNOW **from** **5** [T] a fml to experience (something) fully and deeply: He has known both grief and happiness. **b** [+obj+ to-v|to-v; only in past and perfect tenses] to see, hear, etc.: I've known him to run (esp. BrE) known him run ten miles before breakfast. (=this is what he sometimes does, surprisingly). | She's never been known to be late. (=She is never late.) **6** I don't know (used for expressing slight disagreement): "I reckon she's mad." "Oh, I don't know; I think she's just a bit strange." **7** I know (used when one suddenly has an idea, finds an answer to a problem, etc.): What can we get her for her birthday? Oh, I know — let's give her some flowers. **8** know a thing or two infml to have practical useful information gained from experience **9** know better: **a** to be wise or well-trained enough (not to): She's old enough to know better than to take sweets from a strange man. **b** to know or think that one knows more (than someone or anyone else): He says he was there at the time, but I know better. (=I know he was not) | I suppose you think you know better than your parents! **10** know one's business to be good at doing one's work, arranging one's life, etc. **11** know one's own mind to have firm ideas about what one wants, likes, etc. **12** know one's stuff/one's onions infml to be good at or know all one should know about one's work, a subject, etc. **13** know which side one's 'bread is buttered infml to know how to make oneself liked by people in power or how to gain their approval; know what is to one's advantage **14** let someone know to tell or inform someone: Let me know when you'll be coming. | Thank you for your application; we'll let you know. (=tell you soon whether you have been successful in getting the job or not) **15** not know someone from Adam infml not to know who someone, esp. a man, is or what they look like: I've met her several times, but she says she doesn't know me from Adam. **16** not that I know of not so far as I know; not to my knowledge: "Is there anything else to discuss?" "Not that I know of." **17** there's no knowing it is impossible to know: There's no knowing what the eventual cost will be. **18** (Well,) what do you know! infml, esp. AmE (used as an expression of usual surprise): "I'm getting married tomorrow." "Well, what do you know!" **19** you know infml **a** (used for adding force to a statement) —see USAGE **b** |'·,·| (used when one is reminding someone of something): "Who's Chris?" "Oh, you know, that boy she's been seeing." **20** you never know (often used to avoid giving a direct answer to a question) possibly; perhaps: "Will you be coming next week?" "You never know."

▷ USAGE 1 Compare **know** and **learn**. To **know** is to be conscious of (a fact), to have skill in (a subject), or to have met (a person) before: I knew I had passed my exam before the teacher told me. | She knows about computers. | Do you know how to drive? | I don't know your brother (=I haven't met him). To **learn** is to gain knowledge of (a fact or subject, but not a person): I learnt that I had passed the test. | She's learning about computers. | I'm learning how to drive. (=I can't drive yet) **2** In informal conversation **you know** is often used (sometimes too much) without very much meaning to attract or keep the attention of the listener, or just to fill pauses in the person's speech: You know, I've been thinking about what you said yesterday ... | It's strange,

you know, that he hasn't phoned. | I'm very fond of you, you know. <

**know** things/people **apart** phr v [T] to be able to see the difference between: The two sisters are so alike you'd hardly know them apart.

**know** sthg./sbdy. **backwards** phr v [T] infml to know or understand perfectly: We've been through this contract so many times that I know it backwards!

**know** sthg./sbdy. **from** sthg./sbdy. phr v [T] to understand the difference between (one person or thing) and (another): He doesn't know his left from his right/know good writing from bad.

**know** of sbdy./sthg. phr v [T] to have heard of or about something: Do you know of any way to get wine stains out of cloth?

**know**<sup>2</sup> **n** in the know infml having more information (about something) than most people: People in the know say the economy's in trouble.

**know-all** |'·,·| also **know-it-all** esp. AmE— **n** infml derog someone who behaves as if they know everything: OK Mr. Know-it-all, what's the capital of Namibia?

**know-how** |'·,·| **n** [U] infml practical ability or skill; experience in a particular area of activity: I haven't the technical know-how to attempt this repair job. | The Chinese are buying products, equipment, and know-how from abroad.

**know-ing** |'nəʊɪŋ/ **adj** showing or suggesting that one knows all about something: He said nothing but gave us a knowing look.

**know-ing-ly** |'nəʊɪŋli/ **adv** **1** in a knowing manner **2** intentionally; with knowledge of the probable effect: She would never knowingly hurt anyone.

**know-it-all** |'·,·,·| **n** esp. AmE a KNOW-ALL

**knowl-edge** |'nɒlɪdʒ||'nɑː-/ **n** **1** [S;U (of)] what a person knows; the facts, information, skills, and understanding that one has gained, esp. through learning or experience: a man of considerable knowledge (=who knows a lot) | discoveries that have increased the sum of human knowledge (=the amount that people know) | She has a detailed knowledge of this period. | My knowledge of French is rather poor. | It's common knowledge (=everyone knows) that he's a compulsive gambler. —compare LEARNING; see also WORKING KNOWLEDGE **2** [U] the state of being informed about something; awareness (AWARE): The matter never came/was never brought to the knowledge of the minister. (=He never found out or was never told about it.) | They did it without my knowledge. (=I didn't know about it) | I reminded her about our agreement, but she denied all knowledge of it. (=said she knew nothing about it) [+that] We went to bed happy in the knowledge that our daughter was safe. **3** to (the best of) one's knowledge so far as one knows: I am not quite sure, but to the best of my knowledge his story is true. | He has been there several times, to my (certain) knowledge. | "Has she arrived?" "Not to my knowledge." **4** [the] BrE the practical information that a London taxi driver must learn before he is licensed (LICENSE<sup>2</sup>): He quit his job at the cafe and now he's doing the knowledge.

**knowl-edge-a-ble** |'nɒlɪdʒəbəl||'nɑː-/ **adj** [(about)] (of a person) knowing a lot: He's very knowledgeable about wines. —**bly** **adv**: He speaks very knowledgeably about wines.

**known**<sup>1</sup> |nəʊn/ **past participle** of KNOW<sup>1</sup>: a disease with no known cure

**known**<sup>2</sup> **adj** **1** [A] generally recognized as being the stated thing: a known criminal **2** **known as**: a generally recognized as: She's known as a great singer. **b** also publicly called; named: Samuel Clemens, known as Mark Twain, became a famous American writer. —see also AKA **3** **known to** known by; familiar to: He's known to the police. (=as a criminal) **4** **make oneself known to** fml to introduce oneself to **5** **make something known** fml to tell people about something openly or publicly: He made it known to his friends that he did not want to enter politics.

**Knox** |nɒks||nɑːks/, **John** (?1514–72) a Scottish religious reformer (REFORM) who established the Church of Scotland and Presbyterianism

**knuck-le**<sup>1</sup> |'nʌkəl/ **n** **1** a finger joint, esp. the one joining the finger to the hand: I bruised my knuckles. —see picture at HAND **2** a piece of meat including the lowest joint of the leg: a knuckle of pork **3** near the knuckle BrE



*infml* almost offensive because of being sexually improper: *That joke of his was a bit near the knuckle, don't you think?*

**knuckle<sup>2</sup>** *v*

**knuckle down** *phr v* [I (to)] to start working hard: *You'll have to knuckle down if you want to pass the exam.*

**knuckle under** *phr v* [I (to)] to be forced to accept the orders of someone more powerful: *He refused to knuckle under (to any dictatorship).*

**knuckle-ball** /'nʌkəlbo:ɪ/ *n* (in BASEBALL) a way of throwing a ball which makes the ball move slowly but in unexpected ways

**knuckle-dust-er** /'.., .. / || usu. **brass knuckles** *AmE*— *n* a metal covering for the knuckles, used as a weapon for hitting people

**KO<sup>1</sup>** /,keɪ 'əʊ/ *n infml* for KNOCKOUT

**KO<sup>2</sup>** *v* [T] *infml* for KNOCK out: *The boxer KO'd his opponent right in the first round.*

**ko-a-la** /kəʊ'ɑ:lə/ also **koala bear** /.., '.-/— *n* an Australian tree-climbing animal like a small bear with no tail—see picture at BEAR

**Ko-dak** /'kəʊdæk/ *tdmk* one of the world's largest makers of photographic film, paper, and other related products

**koh-i-noor** /'kəʊɪno:ɹ/ the name of a large DIAMOND that is part of the British CROWN JEWELS

**kohl** /kəʊl/ *n* [U] a powder used esp. in the East by women to darken the skin above and below the eyes

**Kohl, Hel-mut** /'helmu:t/ (1930– ) a German politician, CHANCELLOR of West Germany from 1982 and of united Germany from 1990

**kohl-ra-bi** /,kəʊl'rɑ:bi/ *n* [U] a vegetable of the CABBAGE family whose swollen stem is used for food

**Ko-jak** /'kəʊdʒæk/ an American television DETECTIVE SERIES about a policeman called Kojak, played by the actor Telly Savalas. He was well known for being BALD (=having no hair) and sucking LOLLIPOPS.

**Kon-Ti-ki ex-pe-di-tion** /kɒn 'ti:ki ekspɪ,dɪʃən||kɑ:n-/ [*the*] the journey made in 1947 by the Norwegian EXPLORER Thor Heyerdahl and five others. They sailed a RAFT, the **Kon-Tiki**, from Callao in Peru to Tuamotu Island in the South Pacific, to show that the Polynesian people had done this in earlier times and were therefore descended from the Incas.

**kook** /kʊ:k/ *n AmE infml* a person whose ideas or behaviour are unusual or silly

**kook-a-bur-ra** /'kʊkəbərə/ also **laughing jackass**— *n* an Australian bird with a call like laughter

**kook-y** /'kʊ:ki/ *adj AmE infml* (esp. of a person) odd; behaving in a silly unusual manner —**iness** *n*

**Kool-Aide** /'kʊ:leɪd/ *n* [U] *tdmk* a powder which when mixed with water and sugar makes a drink. Kool-Aide is usu. drunk by children: *grape Kool-Aide*

**Kop** /kɒp||kɑ:p/ [*the*] part of the Anfield football STADIUM in Liverpool where the Liverpool supporters stand

**ko-peck**, **-pek** /'kəʊpek/ *n* 100th of a ROUBLE, the money used in the former USSR

**Ko-ran, Qur'an** /kɔ: 'rɑ:n, kə-||kə'ræn, -'rɑ:n/ [*the*] the holy book of the Muslims, containing the writings of Muhammad. These are accepted by Muslims as coming from Allah, being told to Muhammad by Gabriel. —**~ic** *adj*

**Kor-but** /'kɔ:bət||'kɔ:r-/ , **Ol-ga** /'ɒlgə||'əʊl-/ (1955– ) a Soviet GYMNAST who became famous when she won three gold MEDALS at the 1972 Olympics

**Ko-re-a** /kə'ri:ə/ a country in E Asia, which in 1948 was separated into COMMUNIST North Korea (the Democratic People's Republic; capital Pyongyang; population 22,419,000 (1989)) and South Korea (the Republic of Korea; capital Seoul; population 42,380,000 (1989)) —**~an** *n, adj*

**Ko-re-an War** /kə,ri:ən 'wɔ:ɹ/ [*the*] a war between Chinese and North Korean forces on the one hand and UN and South Korean forces on the other. The war began in 1950 and ended in 1953, with neither side having won.

**ko-sher** /'kəʊʃəɹ/ *adj* 1 of, providing, or being food, esp. meat, prepared according to Jewish law: *kosher meat* | *a kosher restaurant*—see also JUDAISM 2 *infml* honest and trustworthy; customary or proper: *I don't think he or his business are quite kosher.*

**Ko-sin-ski** /kə'zɪnski/, **Jer-zy** /'dʒɜ:zi||'dʒɜ:r-/ (1933–91) an American writer, born in Poland

**kow-tow** /,kau'təʊ/ *v* [I (to)] 1 to obey without question; show too much respect or regard (for the wishes or opinions of): *Be polite, but don't kowtow (to him).* 2 (esp. formerly in SE Asia) to kneel and lower one's head to show respect

**KP** /,keɪ 'pi:z/ *n AmE* often *humor* work to be done by soldiers in a kitchen: *He's assigned to KP today.*

**kph** *written abbrev. for:* kilometres per hour

**kraal** /kra:l/ *n* 1 a village in South Africa with a fence around it 2 *SAfrE* an enclosed piece of ground in which cows, sheep, etc., are kept at night

**Kraft** /kra:ft || kræft/ *n* [U] *tdmk* a company which produces different types of cheese, often in convenient packets

**Kra-ken** /'kra:kən/ *n* in Norse MYTHOLOGY a very large frightening sea-animal

**Kray twins** /'kreɪ 'twɪnz/ [*the*+P] (1933– ) two brothers, **Ronnie Kray** and **Reggie Kray**, who were responsible for a great deal of violent crime in the East End of London in the 1960s. They were put in prison in 1969 for the murders of two men, the judge saying that they should serve at least 30 years.

**Krem-lin** /'kremlɪn/ [*the*] 1 the group of buildings in Moscow which was the centre of the government of the Soviet Union 2 [+*sing./pl. v*] the government of the Soviet Union: *How will the Kremlin answer the latest message from Washington?*

**kris** /kri:z/ *n* (in Malaysia or Indonesia) a knife with a wavy blade, used as a weapon

**Krish-na** /'krɪʃnə/ in Hindu MYTHOLOGY, a god who represents Vishnu, in the form of a COWHERD

**Kriss Kringle** /,kris 'krɪŋɡəl/ *AmE* SANTA CLAUS

**kro-na** /'krəʊnə/ *n* **-nor** /nɔ:ɹ/ the standard coin in the money system of Sweden and Iceland

**kro-ne** /'krəʊnə/ *n* **-ner** /nə:ɹ/ the standard coin in the money system of Denmark and Norway

**Kru-ger-rand** /'kru:ɡə,rænd/ *n* a South African gold coin. They are not used as money, but are bought esp. by foreigners as a way of investing (INVEST (1)) in gold.

**kryp-ton** /'kriptɒn||-tɑ:n/ *n* [U] a gas, found in the air, which is a simple substance (= ELEMENT)

**Krypton** the imaginary PLANET (=other world) where the character Superman was born—see also SUPERMAN

**Kryp-ton-ite** /'kriptənait/ *n* [U] a type of imaginary rock that comes from the PLANET Krypton in the Superman stories. It is harmful to Superman.—see also SUPERMAN

**KS<sup>1</sup>** /,keɪ 'es/ *n* KAPOSÍ'S SARCOMA

**KS<sup>2</sup>** *written abbrev. for* KANSAS

**Kt** *written abbrev. for:* KNIGHT

**Kua-la Lum-pur** /,kwɑ:lə 'lʌmpʊəɹ||-lum'pʊəɹ/ the largest city and capital of the Federation of Malaysia, SE Asia

**Kub-lai Khan** /,kʊ:blə 'kɑ:n || -'kɑ:n, -blai/ (1216–94) a Mongol EMPEROR of China, the GRANDSON of Genghis Khan. He moved the capital of China to Peking.

**Ku-brick** /'kʊ:brɪk/, **Stanley** (1928– ) an American film director and producer. His films include *Dr Strangelove*, *2001: A Space Odyssey*, *A Clockwork Orange*, and *The Shining*.

**ku-dos** /'kju:dɒs||'kʊ:dɑ:s/ *n* [U] esp. *BrE* public admiration and glory (for something done); PRESTIGE: *He gained a lot of kudos by winning the literary competition.*

**Ku Klux Klan** /,kʊ: klʌks 'klæn/ [*the*] also **KKK**— a secret US political organization of Protestant white men who oppose people of other races or religions. It was particularly violent towards black people during the CIVIL RIGHTS protests of the 1960s, showing little or no regard for the law. Members meet in secret and wear long white clothes and long pointed hats which hide their faces.—see picture on page 730

**kuk-ri** /'kʊkri/ *n* a curved knife used as a weapon by the fighting men of Nepal

**kūm-mel** /'kʊməɪ||'kɪməɪ/ *n* [U] a strong alcoholic drink which tastes of CARAWAY

**kum-quat, cumquat** /'kʌmkwɒt||-kwɑ:t/ *n* a very small sort of orange

**kung fu** /,kʌŋ 'fu:/ *n* [U] a Chinese style of fighting without weapons that includes hitting with the hands and feet

**Kurd** /kɜ:d||kɜ:rd/ *n* a member of an Islamic people living



in various countries, esp. Iran and Iraq. The Kurds have attempted without success to gain independence and have been attacked several times by the Iraqi government. After the Gulf War of 1990–91, a place of safety, a **safe haven**, was set up inside Iraq by the UN, but they remain under threat of attack.

#### Ku Klux Klan



**Kurd-ish** /'kɜːdɪʃ/ || 'kɜːrd-/ *adj* of the Kurds or their language

**Kurd-is-tan** /,kɜːdɪ'stæn, -stæn/ || ,kɜːrd-/ the **HOMELAND** of the Kurds which lies in parts of Turkey, Iran, Iraq, Syria, and the Soviet Union

**Ku-ro-sa-wa** /,kʊərə'sɑːwə/, **A-ki-ra** /ə'kiərə/ (1929– ) a Japanese film director, probably the best known and

with the greatest influence outside Japan, whose films include *Seven Samurai* and *Kagemusha*

**Ku-wait** /kʊ'weɪt/ a country in the Middle East, at the NW corner of the Gulf, which has borders with Saudi Arabia and Iraq; capital Kuwait City; population 2,048,000 (1984). It was invaded (**INVADE**) by Iraq in 1990, and after the resulting Gulf War was returned to the Kuwaitis in 1991. — ~i *n, adj*

**kw** *written abbrev. for:* KILOWATT(S)

**kwash-i-or-kor** /,kwɒʃi'ɔːkəʳ/ || ,kwɑːʃi'ɔːr-/ *n* [U] a tropical disease of children caused by not eating enough food containing **PROTEIN**

**kwe-la** /'kweɪlə/ *n* [U] a kind of dance music popular among black South Africans, that includes a type of whistle among its instruments

**kwh** *written abbrev. for:* KILOWATT HOUR

**Kwik-fit** /'kwɪk fɪt/ one of a group of **GARAGES**<sup>1</sup> (2) in Britain where tyres, **EXHAUSTS**<sup>2</sup> (1), and other spare parts for cars and other vehicles are sold and fitted

**Kwik-save** /'kwɪkseɪv/ one of a group of shops which sell food and other goods cheaply, found in many towns and cities in Britain

**KY** *written abbrev. for:* KENTUCKY

**KY jel-ly** /,keɪ waɪ 'dʒeli/ *n* [U] *tdmk* a type of **JELLY** used medically to **LUBRICATE** certain parts of the body such as the **VAGINA**. People often make jokes about it because it is connected with sex.

**Ky-u-shu** /ki'ʊːʃuː/ the furthest S and third largest island of Japan